

K-432

George Harper Store (William Medders Store, Still Pond Store)

Architectural Survey File

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

All material is property of the Maryland Historical Trust.

Last Updated: 05-14-2004

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

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received
date entered

K-432

1. Name

historic Harper, George, Store (Preferred)
and/or common Medders, William, Store, Still Pond Store

2. Location

street & number Maryland Route 292 at Main Street (N.E. corner) not for publication
city, town Still Pond vicinity of congressional district 1
state Maryland code 24 county Kent code 029

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. Frank Huggins
street & number P. O. Box 127
city, town Chestertown vicinity of state Maryland 21620

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Kent County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Chestertown state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic American Buildings Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes ☒ no
date 1979 (Md.-324) ☒ federal state county local
depository for survey records Library of Congress
city, town Washington, state D. C.

7. Description

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Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date _____

Description Summary on Continuation Sheet #4

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The frame store with gable and shed roofs stands at the intersection of what is now Maryland Route 292 with 2 other roads, a locale originally known as Still Pond Crossroads. The earliest portion of this building, a 2-story frame store with a north 1-story rear storeroom, was built in 1877 or shortly thereafter for George Harper. By 1918 Medders had enlarged the L-shaped store by adding to it small sections and another building to the east. A colonnaded porch was extended across the entire front of the joined wings, giving the structure its present appearance. The various additions maintained the integrity of the original structure.

On the front facade is a handrail and a row of large storefront windows used to display merchandise. The structure is entered through a single and a pair of fine wood paneled and glass doors. The only remaining interior feature, although not the original, is the wooden stair in the middle of the original west wing in the Eastlake style.

All rooms had plaster ceilings and walls, except for the 2nd floor room over the original L-shaped building, which became the west wing, and the rear addition to that wing, which had beaded wooden walls and ceilings. Most of the interior plaster and trim has been removed from the building. Also, most of the flooring on the 1st floor of the building has been removed to gain access to the foundations during the stabilization.

The main original portion of the building, the west wing, has 2 floors; the first floor ceiling is 10 feet high and the 2nd floor ceiling is 7 feet high. This west wing, which is L-shaped and has an intersecting gable roof, is approximately 36 feet by 48 feet in size. There is a masonry chimney at the end of each of the 3 gables. The western-most chimney stops at the attic floor, while the other 2 chimneys go down to ground level. The building has a metal standing-seam roof, and an overhang that projects approximately 1 foot with a fairly simple cornice.

The original L-shaped west wing on the 1st floor was 1 open room. The room was enlarged to form a rectangular room by an addition at the northeast corner. Also added was a 2-story shed across the north end of this wing, which measured 18 feet by 36 feet in size. This shed replaced an earlier smaller 1-story addition. The only interruptions in the 1st floor open room are the original supporting columns and the central stair leading upstairs. (Evidence remains of an earlier stair that has been removed.) One pair of entrance doors and a single door opening onto the street porch, which is 8 feet deep, are elaborate and detailed with movable panels to cover the glass when the store is closed.

The 2nd floor is divided into an L-shaped main room with the stair near the front and a smaller room (the addition) to the right in the northeast corner. There are 2 rows of columns, 1 row partially concealed in the wall of the small room. To the rear of the 2nd floor L-shaped room is the 2nd floor of the north addition. The main stair was the only access to the 2nd floor. There is an opening at the rear of the L-shaped room and ladder-access to the L-shaped attic under the gable roofs. The attic is partially covered with rough floor boards.

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Windows on the 1st floor of the west wing are large with 2-over-2 panes. The 2nd floor windows are smaller with 6-over-6 panes. The windows on both floors had panel shutters.

Adjacent to the west wing is the east wing, a 2-story structure with gable roof approximately 24 feet by 40 feet in size; the 1st floor ceiling is 9 feet 6 inches high and the 2nd floor ceiling is 9 feet high. First floor windows and 2nd floor windows are large, having 4-over-4 panes with the 1st floor windows being larger. They also have paneled shutters. This building had a small storage room with a shed roof at the north end.

The west and east wings are connected at the front at the 1st and 2nd floors by a small 2-story addition, 16 feet by 18 feet in size at the 2nd floor, and 16 feet by 24 feet in size at the first floor. The resulting joined structures give the appearance of a single U-shaped 2-story building. The front or south wall of the lower floor of the east wing was moved forward 6 feet to align with the front wall of the west wing, while the 2nd story south wall above the connection aligns with the east wing.

The 1st floor of the east wing is 1 large room, except for 5 supporting columns running south to north. The 2nd floor is also 1 large room without columns.

A long display window was installed across the front of the connection and the east wing. The original west porch was extended across the connection and the east wing at the 1st story height. There is brick paving under the porch, which turns around the corner past the west wing.

Although the store is an accumulation of additions and revisions to additions and finally a connection, it is the dominant building in the heart of Still Pond, once known as the Crossroads of Still Pond.

One frame storage building sits at the northeast corner of the property and a second small frame building partially occupies a portion along the northern property line. These buildings, probably twentieth century, are in the size and character of farm outbuildings and do not detract from the store proper, nor are they seen since both are quite removed from the streets that the store faces.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1877 Builder Architect unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Applicable Criteria: A, B and C

The George Harper Store in Still Pond, Maryland, achieves significance from three primary sources: the architectural character of the building, its role in the commercial history of an Eastern Shore community, and through association with William Medders who operated the store from 1894 to 1959. Architecturally, the George Harper Store is an intact example of a type of structure, the simple frame commercial building, once commonly found at cross-roads communities in Maryland throughout the late nineteenth century and well into the twentieth. The building is characterized by a utilitarian design marked by a broad porch across the front to protect customers and goods from the weather. Commercially, Still Pond, at the turn of the century was a thriving community with a cannery and warehouse for produce from the surrounding farming area. The George Harper Store supplied the needs and luxuries of the citizenry of the area. Medders, who originally managed the store for George Harper and was responsible for enlarging the structure and expanding the business from groceries into a general department store, was an influential citizen of Still Pond from his prominence as a successful businessman and owner of nearly a thousand acres of farm land in the area which was in cultivation.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT:

The Still Pond store was built in 1877 by Harper who had been in the dry goods business with his brother in a store just east of the crossroads until a disagreement dissolved their partnership. Harper then decided to start his own business and bought undeveloped land from Mrs. John Gale for the construction of a new general store, the 5th store in Still Pond.

Medders was born in 1871 at Crompton, Kent County, Maryland. In 1888 Medders worked for Harper before going to Baltimore in 1889. He returned to operate the store in 1894, purchasing the business at this time.

In 1888 Harper had sold off the north portion of his lot. In 1908 Harper sold his remaining land and the store to his former employee Medders for \$3,000. The name of the store was changed to William Medders Co.

A legend in his time, Medders is remembered in Still Pond as a great merchant and perhaps is best described as "a creator of a country department store".

While living in Baltimore in 1889 Medders studied and worked in business and merchandising, making close friends with manufacturers and suppliers from New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore. At this time, Baltimore was a wholesale dry-goods center of the nation; one of Medders' employers was Daniel Holiday, one of the foremost merchants of the city.

Still Pond, at the turn of the century, was a thriving community with a large cannery and warehouse for farm produce. People came from Baltimore by steamboat to the resort of Betterton only a few miles away and traveled to Still Pond, which had 4 stores and 5 doctors.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #2

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Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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At Still Pond, Medders renewed associations with business friends in Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York and began to increase his inventories and the range of products he sold. He also added to the store building and built a warehouse across the street. By World War I he had a full department store, in addition to his grocery line. He often bought large quantities of dry goods and housewears in speculation, selling at higher prices later. He made trips to New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore. He avoided brokers and bought through banking connections. He enjoyed investing in commodities such as cotton and grains. By the early 20s he had enlarged the store three times to a total of almost 10,000 square feet and had increased his warehouse space.

Medders' business flourished in the 20s. He had purchased large inventories and, with the shortage of consumer goods caused by the war, customers came from near and far. He had opened a blacksmith shop on a lot adjoining the store and carried a full line of coaches and wagons. He advertised in local and Baltimore papers, indicating that his prices and variety of stock were the best to be found.

Additional sheds were built and a barn leased to house the expanded inventories. When the depression hit in the 30s, Mr. Medders was again in a most favorable position. He had vast inventories, all paid for, and farms that he had previously acquired were producing. He also had cash reserves that allowed him to maintain inventory and carry his customers on credit terms. As reported, none of his customers went without food or clothing, for he allowed them to pay whatever they could on a weekly basis. His customers never forgot his kindness and many paid off their debts over long periods of time.

It is said that during the mid-1930s his business was so successful that on a number of occasions men from Woolworth's main office in New York and from Sears, Roebuck & Co. were sent to study his methods.

The store located at the town crossroads also acted as a community center, as evidenced by its annual Christmas celebration. There was a decorated tree on the porch roof, abundance of food, candy for the children and no one left without an orange. Entire families came from Kent and Queen Anne's Counties and from Baltimore. There was music in the town square just across the street and it was a time of joy for all. The period of celebration began one week before Christmas and lasted until 5 p.m. on Christmas eve.

Medders' interest in the community was deep. In addition to the store he also at one time owned more than 1,000 acres of county land, tilled by contract farmers. Politics was an important part of his life and as a staunch Democrat he participated in the political life of the country and community, serving on numerous boards and committees. He was largely responsible for incorporating the village of Still Pond in 1908. He was a member of the Board that sponsored an act in the Maryland legislature that allowed all property owners, men or women, to vote. It is said that the first women to vote in the state of Maryland did so in Still Pond.

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10. Geographical Data

lat. $76^{\circ} 02' 41''$

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

long. $39^{\circ} 19' 37''$

B

Zone Easting Northing

D 

F

[illegible]

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #3

state	N/A	code	county	code
-------	-----	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

organization M. Hamilton Morton, Jr., Architect

date July, 1981

telephone 202-628-1397

city or town Washington

state D. C. 20005

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

 national state X local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

John H. Smith 5-14-82

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For HCERS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date:

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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received

date entered

Continuation sheet	Harper, George, Store Kent County, Maryland	Item number	9 & 10	Page	3
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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Sun, Baltimore, April 31, 1946, "Country Storekeeper for Half a Century"

Deleware State News, Dover, Del, April 27, 1972, "Medders' A Landmark in Still Pond"

Register of Deeds and Orphans Court, Kent County Court House

Record of William Medders' life made by him in his later years (copy in possession of Frank Huggins)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Boundary Justification: This is essentially the property that George Harper sold to William Medders after Harper had sold off the north parcel from the original property that he purchased in 1877.

The boundaries for this nomination are found in Kent County Deed Book 47, p, 266 and reads as follows:

BEGINNING for the same at a point on the center line of a street or way that extends Northerly from the intersection of the center lines of the Betterton to Harmony State Road and the Still Pond to Chestertown State Road. Said beginning point is North 07 degrees 38 minutes West 25.70 feet from the aforementioned Road intersections, and running:

(1) Thence by and with the center line of the aforementioned street or way, North 07 degrees 38 minutes West 98.85 feet to a point on a division line of a lot of Caroline McK. Medders;

(2) Thence by and with the said division line, North 82 degrees 19 minutes East 139.60 feet to an iron pipe set along a division line marked by an old fence;

(3) Thence by and with the said division line along the said fence line the two following courses and distances; South 07 degrees 38 minutes East 22.50 feet to an iron pipe. South 82 degrees 19 minutes West 28.00 feet to an iron pipe.

(4) Thence continuing by and with the said division line, South 06 degrees 43 minutes East 69.70 feet to an iron pipe set on the Northerly line of a public road;

(5) Thence by and with the line of the said public road, South 62 degrees 34 minutes West 58.90 feet to the intersection of the Northerly line of the Harmony to Betterton State Road (50 feet wide);

(6) Thence by and with the line of the said State Road, North 84 degrees 15 minutes West 55.70 feet to the point of beginning.

Containing in all 0.260 acres of land, more or less.

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DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The George Harper Store is a late nineteenth century five-bay frame commercial structure, two stories high with a gable roof, to which is attached later additions, believed to date from about the turn of the century, creating a three-part structure on the facade. The east portion is a two story frame building with a gable roof with the gable end facing the street. These buildings are connected by a one story structure with large display windows. The three sections are tied into one unit by a ten square-columned, one story porch. The windows of the original building have six-over-six lights on the second floor and large panes on the first. The east building has two-over-two lights. The interiors of the buildings consist primarily of a large store and storage rooms with a turned balustraded staircase rising up in the center of the original building. The structure is to be rehabilitated and some maintenance work, such as on the east walls, has taken place.

OLD MEDDERS STORE
Still Pond, Maryland
(ca 1875)

K-432

The Old Medders Store in Still Pond is a frame building constructed in two sections, both two stories high.

It was built about 1875 by George Washington Harper, Mr. Medders father-in-law. The later portion was constructed by Mr. Medders, incorporating three earlier shops.

This building housed a typical general store of the late 19th and early 20th century. An advertisement in the Lake, Griffing, & Stevenson Atlas of 1877 showed that there were four other general stores in Still Pond at that time.

Later in the century the Medders Store became a community center, especially around Christmas when the store was kept open until late in the evening and free ham sandwiches and coffee were given away to shoppers. Yearly drawings would be held for a sled and a doll and Santa Claus would visit. During the period of fruit growing in the county, agricultural supplies were also sold.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

K-432
MAGI # 1504324511

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC OLD MEDDERS STORE

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

Northeast corner, Still Pond Crossroads

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Still Pond

VICINITY OF

1st

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Kent

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED☒ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☒ OTHER: under renovation**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Francis M. Huggins

Telephone #: 301-778-2948

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Still Pond

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Kent County Court House

Liber #: EHP 47

Folio #: 266

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown, Maryland

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR
☒ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Old Medders Store Building is located at the northeast corner of Route 292 and Route 566, the corner known for years as Still Pond Crossroads. The wooden building faces south toward the town green where once stood a town hall.

The store was constructed in two sections, the earliest being a five bay, two story building which stands closest to the corner. Its roof ridge is parallel to Route 292 and it has simple brick chimneys in each gable. To the rear is a lower two story, gable roofed ell and a two story shed-roofed extension. The building is evenly fenestrated across the front with 6 over 6 sash on the second floor. On the first floor two over two sash in odd-numbered bays alternate with doors in the even. The western doors are double with removable wooden panels over door lights. The other door is single; both have transom lights. First floor windows have paneled shutters but the shutters have been removed from the windows on the second story. Windows in the remainder of the building are less regularly spaced and have a variety of sash.

To the east is a two story frame building with its gable fronting the street. It is four bays long. Between the two buildings is an open 10' alley where other structures have been demolished. The two remaining sections of the story are connected by an eight bay, flat-roofed one-story porch with a brick paved floor. Also, running from the alley and across the first story of the gable-front is a series of four-paired one over one sash windows.

The entire building is sheathed in narrow weather boarding. All detailing is quite simple. The interior of the building has been removed although a wide single-run stair with elaborate balusters and a pair of bold newels remains in the earlier building.

The structure is currently under renovation as apartments and shops.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES ca 1875 BUILDER/ARCHITECT George Washington Harper

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Commonly called the Medders Store, this structure was built in about 1875 by George Washington Harper, Mr. Medders father-in-law.¹ The later portion was constructed by Mr. Medders, incorporating three earlier shops.

This building housed a typical general store of the late 19th and early 20th century. An advertisement in the Lake, Griffing, & Stevenson Atlas of 1877 showed that there were four other general stores in Still Pond at that time.

Later in the century the Medders Store became a community center, especially around Christmas when, according to Clara Medders Krebs, her father kept the store open until late in the evening and gave away free ham sandwiches and coffee to shoppers. Yearly drawings would be held for a sled and a doll and Santa Claus would visit. During the period of fruit growing in the county agricultural supplies would also be sold. Mr. Medders sold sleighs and carriages from the Town Hall building after it was no longer used for performances; the structure burned in the Spring of 1916.²

1 Mr. Harper built the Harper House (K-435) and Mr. Medders built the Medders-Krebs House (K-432).

2 The Town Hall was directly across Route 566 from this store where the Still Pond Sculpture now stands.

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Kent County Land Records, Kent County Court House, Chestertown, Maryland

Interview with Clara M. Krebs

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE _____ COUNTY _____

STATE _____ COUNTY _____

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marsha L. Fritz, Survey Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Kent County Planning Commission

DATE

778-4600, ext.67

STREET & NUMBER

Court House

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Chestertown, Maryland

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
Washington, D.C. 20240

HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION

APPLICATION — PART 1

(Pursuant to the Tax Reform Act of 1976)

Instructions: Applicant should read the instructions carefully before completing application. No Certification may be made unless a completed application form has been received (P.L. 94-455). Use typewriter or print clearly in dark ink to complete the application form. If additional space is needed to complete Part 1, use the reverse side or a separate plain sheet of paper clearly indicating the owner's name and mailing address. Part 1 of this application may be completed and sent to the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer at any time during the year, and may be sent separately or with Part 2.

PART 1 EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

1. NAME OF PROPERTY: Geo. Harper Store (also known as Wm. Medders Store)Address of property: Street N. E. Corner of Maryland Route 292 and Main StreetCity Still Pond County Kent State Maryland Zip Code 21667Name of historic district in which property is located: N. A.2. DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE: See over

(see instructions for map and photograph requirements—use reverse side if necessary)

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: The earliest portions of this building, a 2-story frame (use reverse side if necessary) store with a north 1-story rear storeroom, were built in 18 or shortly thereafter for George Harper at the intersection of what is now Maryland Route 292 with 2 other roads, a locale originally known as Still Pond Crossroads. Harper had been in the dry goods business with his (ove

Date of construction (if known): 1877 to 1918 ☒ Original site ☐ Moved Date of alterations (if known): _____

4. NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF OWNER:

Name Frank Huggins (also P. O. Box 127—Chestertown, Md. 21620Street 28 East 10th StreetCity New York State N. Y. Zip Code 10003Telephone Number (during day): Area Code 212/674-3993

I hereby attest that the information I have provided is, to the best of my knowledge, correct, and that I am owner of the property described above.

Signature Frank Huggins Date 10-8-80

For office use only

The structure described above is included within the boundaries of the National Register historic district and ☐ contributes ☐ does not contribute to the character of the district.The structure ☒ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6) and ☒ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with the Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60).The structure is located in a district which ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6). ☐ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60), and ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to contribute to the character of said district.Signature [Signature] Date 10-15-80
State Historic Preservation Officer

This property has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Department of the Interior (36 CFR 67) and, if subject to depreciation under section 167 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954.

☐ is hereby certified a historic structure.☐ does not contribute to the character of the historic district and does not merit certification as a historic structure. Reasons given on the attached sheetSignature _____ Date _____
Keeper of the National Register

2. Description of Physical Appearance: Two-story frame building that originally was 2 buildings that were joined. It has had numerous additions and changes made as described in 3. Statement of Significance. The building dominates the crossroads of the town. It has a porch with columns running across the front. The building is rundown and in bad condition. Stabilization work has been started as shown and described in Part 2.

3 . Statement of Significance - continued:

brother in a store just east of the crossroads until a disagreement dissolved their partnership. George Harper then decided to start his own business and bought undeveloped land from Mrs. John Gale for the erection of a new general store, the fifth store in Still Pond. In 1888 Harper sold off the north portion of his lot. It is not clear whether the house thereon was built before the sale or later. In 1894 Harper sold his remaining land and the store to his former employee William Medders for \$3,000.

By the year 1819 Medders had enlarged the store by adding an adjacent building on the property, connecting it by a 2-story ligature with the original store, and adding a second story to the original north, store-room. He also extended the porch across the entire front, giving the building its present appearance. Medders continued to run the store, then known as the Wm. Medders Store, until his death in 1959. His daughter, Clara Medders Krebs continued to run the store until 1964.

In 1964 Mrs. Krebs sold the store to Robert Malone, and it ceased to function as a general store. After several changes in ownership and function, the building was bought in 1972 by Frank M. Huggins from Kenneth Parrish, who had operated an antique shop in it for one year. Huggins allowed the city to use the premises as a community center for a year and a half until January 1978. In 1978 M. Hamilton Morton, Jr. AIA was asked by the owner to plan the adaptation of the structure for reuse as an arts and crafts center. -- from HABS drawings

Medders was a prominent member of the town for many years from this store, which is the dominant feature of the main crossroads of this very small town. The building is still basically intact, although run down, after more than 100 years. Significant features: porch, exterior doors, display window with unusual railing and interior stair, the only remaining interior feature although it was not the original stair. Records and 22 photographs in the Library of Congress. Herewith are 10 HABS measured drawings (1-10), reduced format.

Photographs:

2 sheets, 8 photographs showing exterior and significant features.
2 xerox from original photographs, A) showing 2 separate buildings, date unknown and B) taken c. 1915 with second building in background.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
Washington, D.C. 20240

K-432



HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION
APPLICATION — PART 2

(Pursuant to the Tax Reform Act of 1976)

Instructions: Applicant should read the instructions carefully before completing application. No Certification may be made unless a completed application form has been received (P.L. 94-455). Use typewriter or print clearly in dark ink to complete the application form. If additional space is needed to complete Part 2, attach additional blank sheets. Part 2 of this application may be completed and sent to the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer at any time during the year and may be sent separately or with Part 1.

Part 2 DESCRIPTION OF REHABILITATION

1. NAME OF PROPERTY: Geo. Harper Store

Address of property: Street N. E. Corner of Maryland Route 292 and Main Street

City Still Pond

State Md.

Zip Code 21667

If located in National Register historic district, local or State designated district, specify: _____

2. DATA ON EXISTING STRUCTURE:

Date of construction: 1877 to 1918

Existing floor area: 7370 sq. feet

Original use: General Store

Type of construction: Frame

3. DATA ON REHABILITATION PROJECT:

Project starting date (est.): 1980 Project completion date (est.): 1982

Estimated cost of rehabilitation: \$100,000.00 Proposed use: Arts and Crafts Center with two apartment

Number of housing units to be created (if applicable): 2

Has the property received Federal or State financial assistance? ☐ yes ☒ no

If yes, specify source: _____

Are architectural plans and specifications available for review? ☒ yes ☐ no

Architect's or developer's name and address: M. Hamilton Morton, Jr. AIA, Architect

Washington Building, Suite 638

15th & New York Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004

Telephone Number: 202/628-1397

4. DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF REHABILITATION/PRESERVATION WORK—includes site work, new construction, alterations, etc. Complete blocks below.
see continuation sheet

NUMBER

1

Architectural feature _____

Approximate date of feature _____

Describe existing feature

See 2 sheets of attached 6 photos
and 10 HABS drawings

Describe work and impact on existing features

See item 4, above.

Photo no. _____ Drawing no. _____

4. Detailed Description of Rehabilitation/Preservation Work:


Elevation: Front elevation will remain as it is except that the east wing and west wing will be separated at the ground level, creating two buildings, with a pedestrian walkway and new stair to the second floor to provide entrances from the ground level to several shop areas. The second floor wall currently removed for stabilization efforts will be replaced when the work is completed. The other elevations will remain basically unchanged. The interior stair will remain if a tenant can be found to occupy a two-story space. The display window under the porch will be removed in the center portion and returned as described on the proposed plans, attached.

Plans: The owner hopes to turn the building into small rentable spaces for arts and crafts shops. The second floor of the east wing will be turned into an apartment and the two-story rear addition to the west wing will be turned into a one-tenant shop on the ground floor with living facilities above. The remaining space will be subdivided to provide entrances off the central pedestrian way between the two wings. This section is being replaced as shown in the proposed plans. The building is in a very deteriorated condition; the owner hopes to restore the building and provide modern heating, plumbing, electrical and finished spaces with insulated walls and a new metal roof. One small addition is currently being added to the rear of the east wing to house a ceramics shop.

The site: Significant water damage has undermined much of the foundation of the west wing. A curb will be built to protect the future restoration work as underpinning is done for the existing exterior walls and footings of the columns in this building. A new concrete slab will be used on the ground floor of the west wing. The pedestrian mall will receive brick paving similar to what currently exists in front of the building.

Drawings 1-5 show proposed plans, sections through the pedestrian walk and through the two wings. Large drawings 1 and 2 show at a larger scale the proposed first and second floor plans.

[illegible]


 Add. Connecting
 East & West Wings
Late C. 1910

FIRST FLOOR PLAN

SCALES
FEET 1 2 3 4 5
METERS 0 1 2 3 4 5

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/10/2008 BY 60322

STILL ROOM EAST CORNER EAST FLAND

GEO. HARPER STORE

FIRST FLOOR PLAN

Graphic scale in feet and meters. The scale shows 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 feet and 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 meters. The text 'FEET' and 'METERS' is printed below the respective scales.

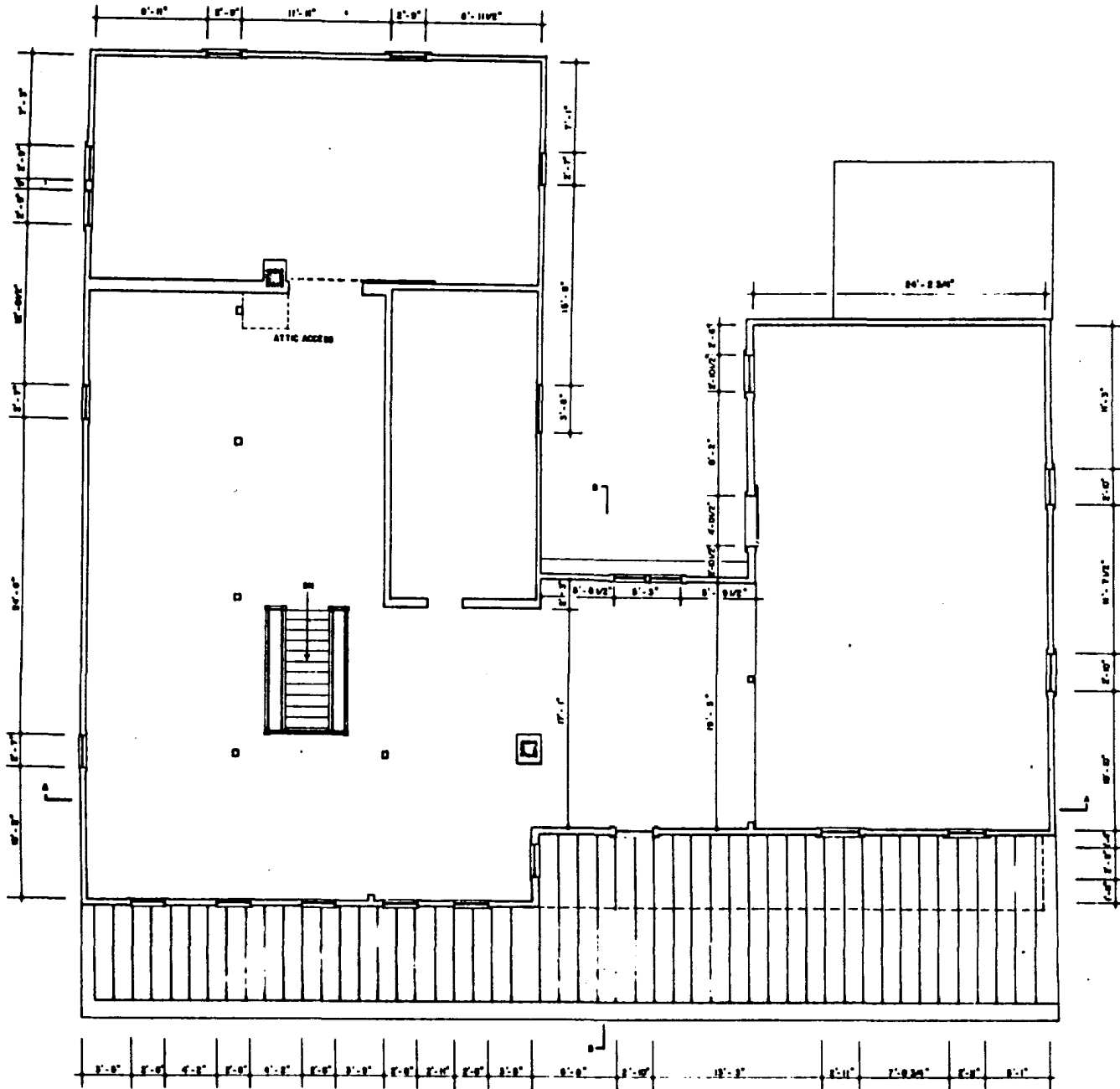
WILSON - A DEARNOVO LTD

GEO HARPER STORE
MILL FORD SEBASTIAN COUNTY MISSOURI

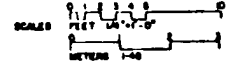
GEO HARPER STORE

CONFIDENTIAL

K-432



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



This architectural elevation drawing depicts a two-story building with a complex roofline. The left portion of the building features a steep gabled roof with three chimneys and a row of five rectangular, multi-paned windows. The right portion has a lower, more gradual gabled roof with two similar windows. The ground floor is characterized by a central entrance with a decorative pediment and a series of large, multi-paned display windows extending across the front. The drawing uses simple black lines on a white background to define the building's structure and features.

0 1 2 3 4 5
FEET

0 1 2
METERS

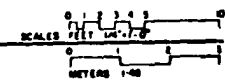
FOUNDATIONS	STONE & BRICK
WALLS	WOOD FRAME & SIDING
ROOF	TERNE & ASPHALT SHINGLES
PORCH	WOOD
WALKS & TERRACES	BRICK

Page 1 of 10

K-432



NORTH ELEVATION

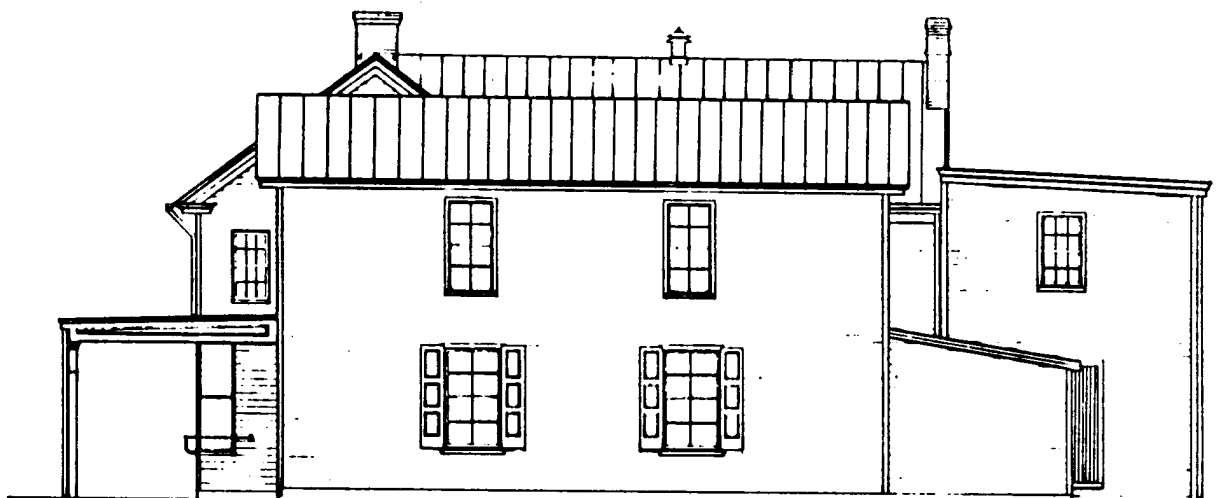


MATERIAL NOTES

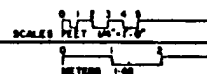
FOUNDATIONS	STONE & GRACE
WALLS	WOOD FRAME & SIDING
ROOF	TERME & ASPHALT SHINGLES
PORCH	WOOD
WALKS & TERRACES	GRACE

PROJECT NO. K-432
 DATE: 10/1/77
 DRAWN BY: J. L. BEAN
 CHECKED BY: J. L. BEAN
 APPROVED BY: J. L. BEAN
 PROJECT LOCATION: 8711 L. ROAD, WEST COUNTY, MARYLAND
 PROJECT NAME: GEO HARPER STORE
 ARCHITECT: J. L. BEAN & SONS, INC.
 1500 W. 10TH ST., BALTIMORE, MD. 21201
 PHONE: (410) 524-1100

K-432



EAST ELEVATION



MATERIAL NOTES

FOUNDATIONS	STONE & BRICK
WALLS	WOOD FRAME & SIDING
ROOF	TERNE & ASPHALT SHINGLES
PORCH	WOOD
WALKS & TERRACES	BRICK

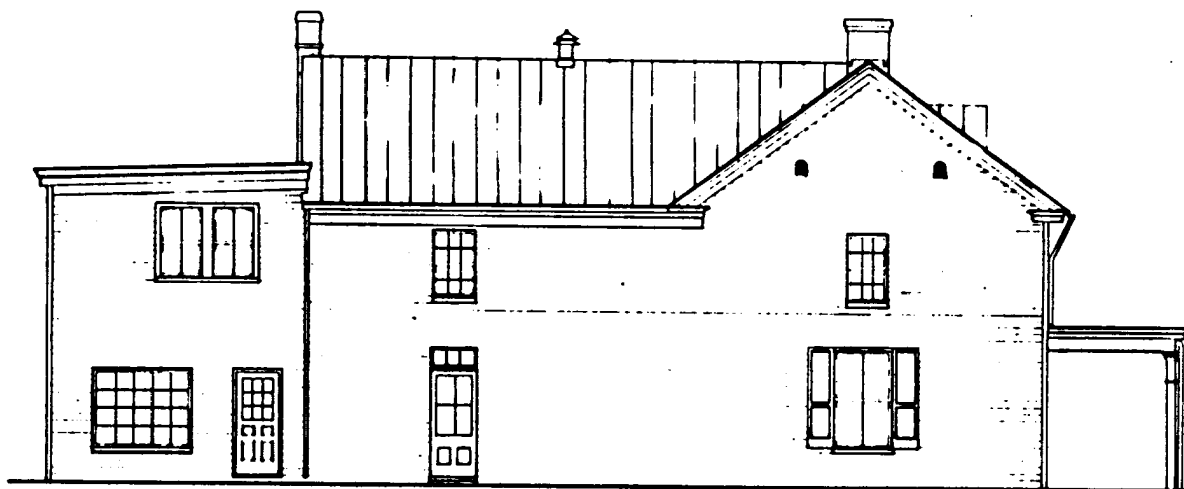
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2. CHECKED BY: J. L. B. 10/15/83

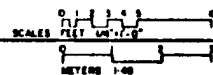
GEO HARPER STORE
1714 N. 10th St.
WEST COUNTY, MINNAPOLIS

3. DATE: 10/15/83

K-432



WEST ELEVATION



MATERIAL NOTES

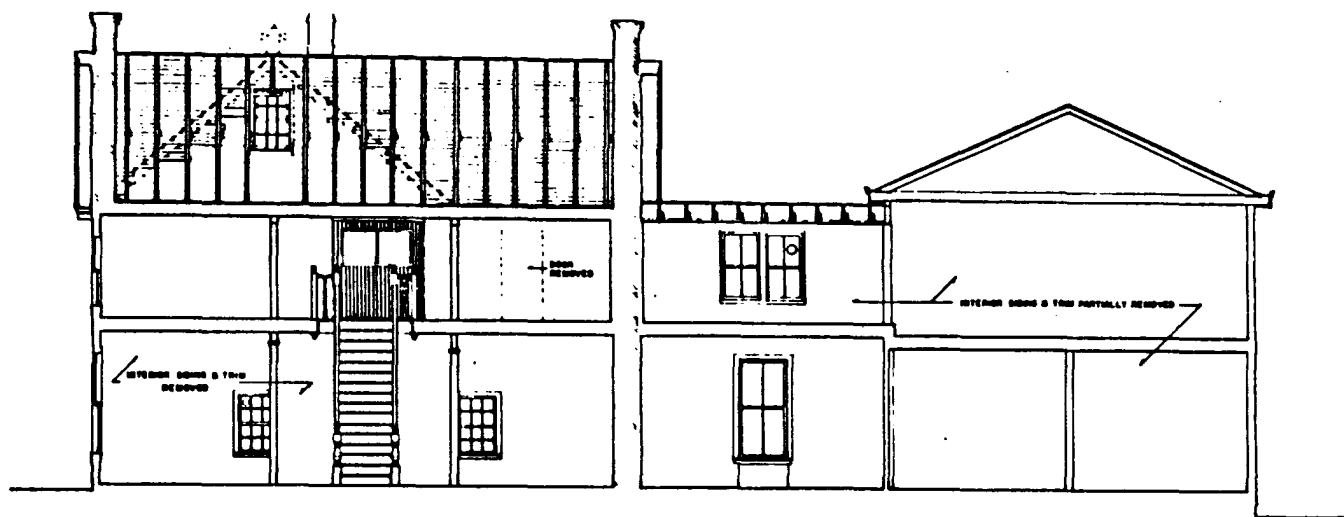
FOUNDATIONS	STONE & BRICK
WALLS	WOOD FRAME & SIDING
ROOF	TERNE & ASPHALT SHINGLES
PORCH	WOOD
WALKS & TERRACES	BRICK

DESIGNED BY A. DEAN HIGHT, JR.
 ENGINEER
 1111 N. 1ST ST. S.W.
 SEATTLE, WASH. 98104

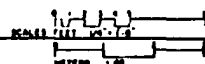
GEORGE HARPER STORE
 1111 N. 1ST ST. S.W.
 SEATTLE, WASH. 98104

REVISIONS
 NO. 1
 DATE 7-18-66

K-432



SECTION A-A



DRAWN BY J. DEAN SMITH, JR.
 CHECKED BY J. DEAN SMITH, JR.
 DATE 10/1/78

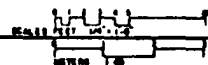
GEO HARPER STORE
 STILL RING, 1 EAST COUNTY
 MAPPLAND

REVISIONS
 NO. 1
 DATE 10/1/78
 BY J. DEAN SMITH, JR.

K-432

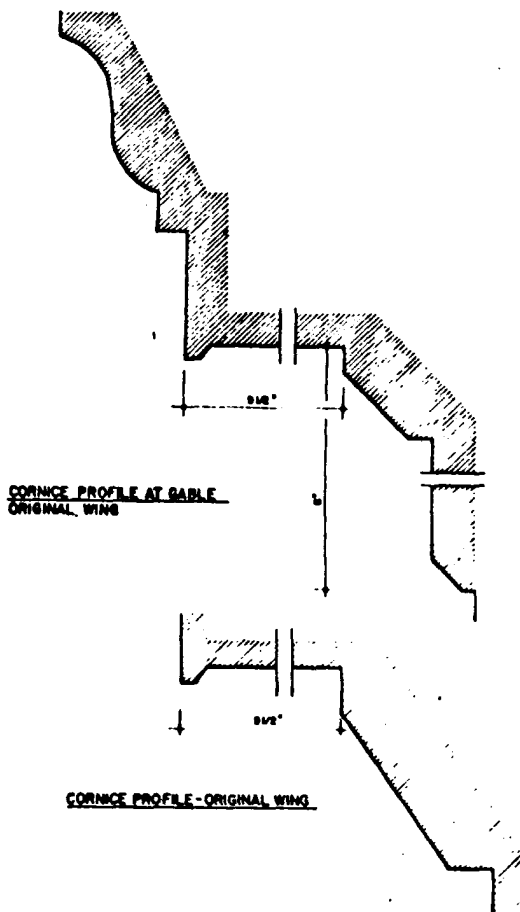


SECTION B-B



GEORGE HARPER STORE
 STILL ROAD
 BENT COUNTY
 MISSISSIPPI
 ARCHITECT
 J. B. BROWN
 110 N. 10th St.
 BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

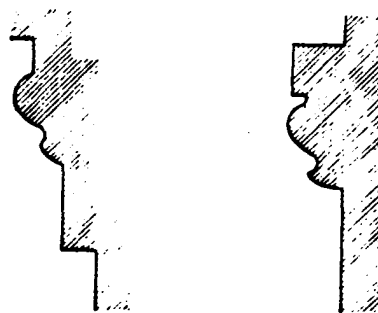
K-432



CORNICE PROFILE-ORIGINAL WING

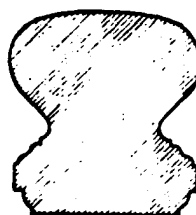


FRONT DOOR PANEL PROFILE

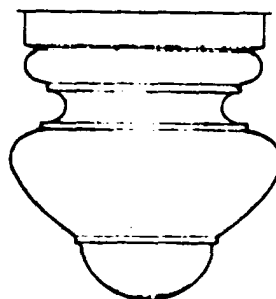


EXTERIOR INTERIOR

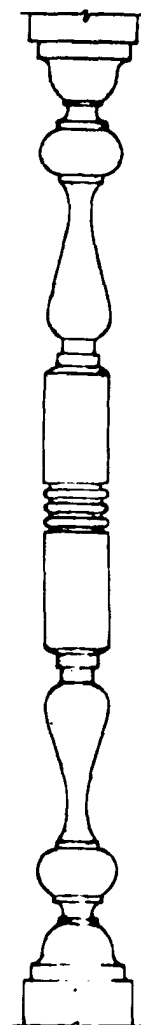
COLUMN CAPITAL PROFILES



HANDRAIL



NEWEL DROP



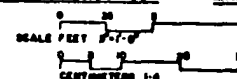
BALUSTER



SECOND FLOOR NEWEL POST

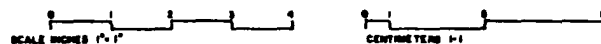


MAIN NEWEL POST



DISPLAY WINDOW MULLION

NOTE: ALL DETAILS & PROFILES FULL SCALE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED



SCALE 1/4\"/>

IF MADE FOR ARCHITECT OR ALL INFORMATION
 HEREIN IS TO BE USED ONLY FOR THE PROJECT
 SPECIFICALLY IDENTIFIED HEREIN AND NOT FOR
 ANY OTHER PROJECT OR PURPOSE

GEO HARPER STORE
 1711 10TH AVE
 SEATTLE, WASH 98104

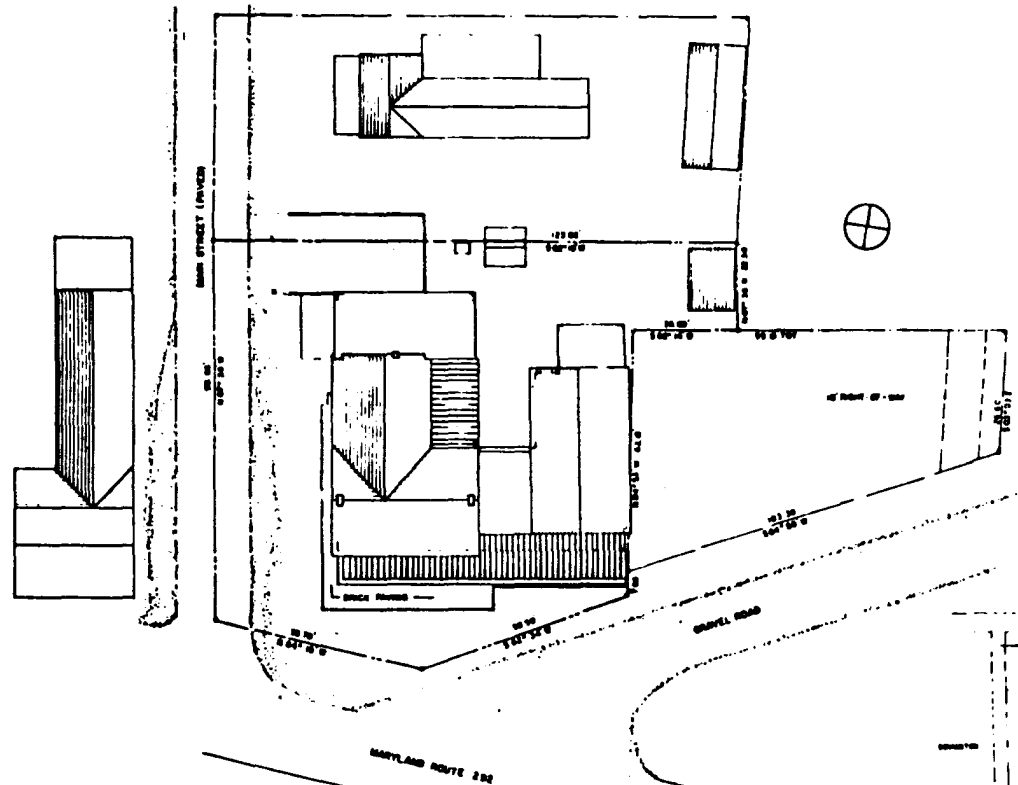
DATE: 1/1/82
 BY: J. B. BROWN
 CHECKED: J. B. BROWN
 APPROVED: J. B. BROWN

GEO. HARPER STORE

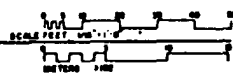
THE EARLIEST PORTIONS OF THIS BUILDING, A TWO STORY FRAME STORE WITH A NORTH ONE-STORY REAR STOREROOM, WERE BUILT IN 1877 OR SHORTLY THEREAFTER FOR GEORGE HARPER AT THE INTERSECTION OF WHAT IS NOW MARYLAND ROUTE 292 WITH TWO OTHER ROADS, A LOCALE ORIGINALLY KNOWN AS STILL POND CROSSROADS. HARPER HAD BEEN IN THE DRY GOODS BUSINESS WITH HIS BROTHER IN A STORE JUST EAST OF THE CROSSROADS UNTIL A DISAGREEMENT DISSOLVED THEIR PARTNERSHIP. GEORGE HARPER THEN DECIDED TO START HIS OWN BUSINESS AND BOUGHT UNDEVELOPED LAND FROM MRS JOHN GALE FOR THE ERECTION OF A NEW GENERAL STORE, THE FIFTH STORE IN STILL POND. IN 1888 HARPER SOLD OFF THE NORTH PORTION OF HIS LOT. IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER THE HOUSE THEREON WAS BUILT BEFORE THE SALE OR LATER IN 1894 HARPER SOLD HIS REMAINING LAND AND THE STORE TO HIS FORMER EMPLOYEE WILLIAM MEDDERS FOR \$3,000.

BY THE YEAR 1918 MEDDERS HAD ENLARGED THE STORE BY ADDING AN ADJACENT BUILDING ON THE PROPERTY, CONNECTING IT BY A TWO-STORY LIGATURE WITH THE ORIGINAL STORE, AND ADDING A SECOND STORY TO THE ORIGINAL NORTH STOREROOM. HE ALSO EXTENDED THE PORCH ACROSS THE ENTIRE FRONT, GIVING ITS PRESENT APPEARANCE. MEDDERS CONTINUED TO RUN THE STORE, THEN KNOWN AS THE WM. MEDDERS STORE, UNTIL HIS DEATH IN 1959. HIS DAUGHTER, CLARA MEDDERS KREBS CONTINUED TO RUN THE STORE UNTIL 1964.

IN 1964 MRS. KREBS SOLD THE STORE TO ROBERT MALONE, AND IT CEASED TO FUNCTION AS A GENERAL STORE. AFTER SEVERAL CHANGES IN OWNERSHIP AND FUNCTION, THE BUILDING WAS BOUGHT IN 1972 BY FRANK M. HUGGINS FROM KENNETH PARRISH, WHO HAD OPERATED AN ANTIQUE SHOP IN IT FOR ONE YEAR. HUGGINS ALLOWED THE CITY TO USE THE PREMISES AS A COMMUNITY CENTER FOR A YEAR AND A HALF UNTIL JANUARY 1978. IN 1978 M. HAMILTON MORTON, JR., A.I.A. WAS ASKED BY THE OWNER TO PLAN THE ADAPTATION OF THE STRUCTURE FOR REUSE AS AN ARTS AND CRAFTS CENTER.



SITE PLAN



LOCATION MAP

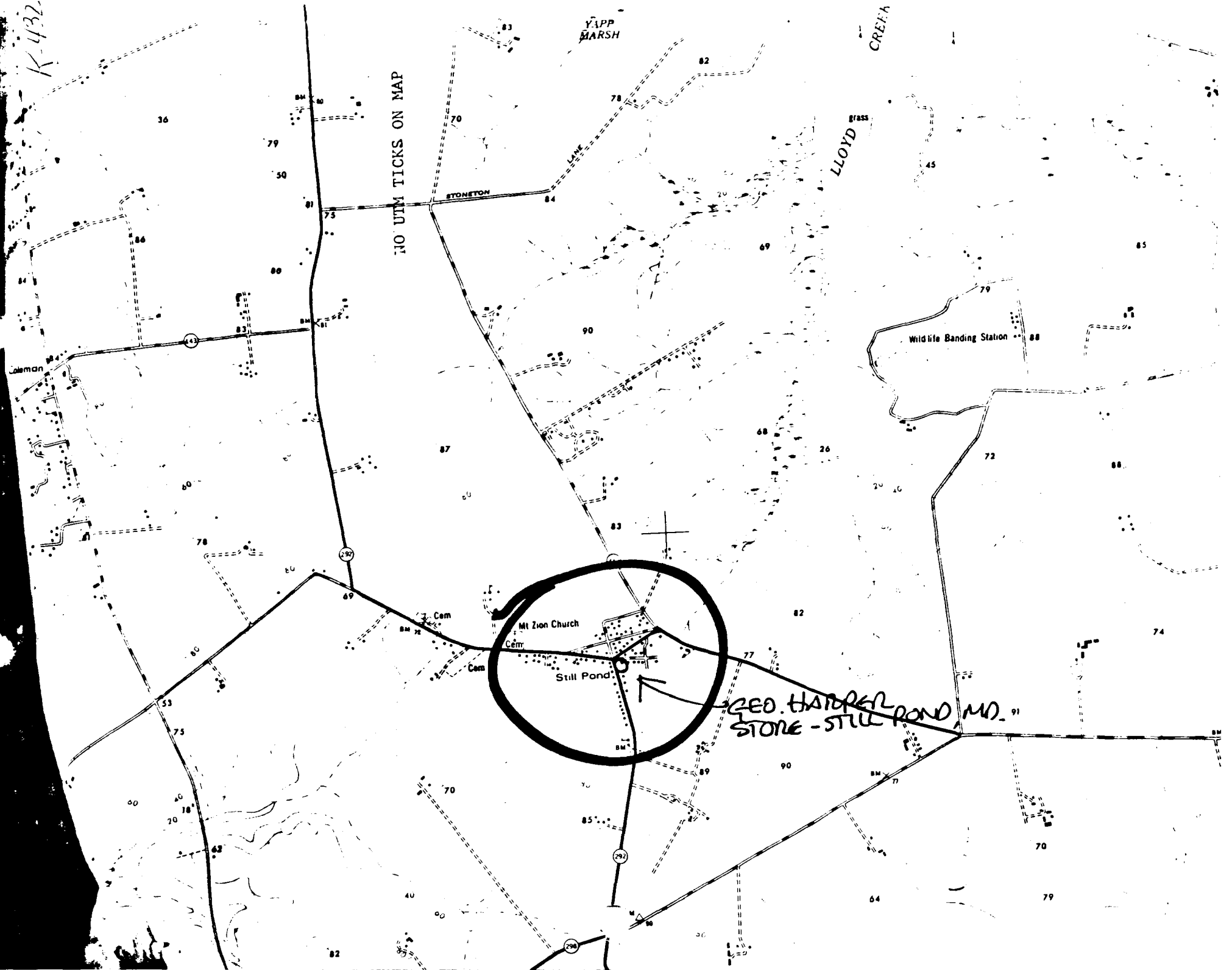
GEO. HARPER STORE

STILL POND DIST. COUNTY

PREPARED BY: A. DEAN LAMBERT, JR.
 DRAWN BY: FRANK M. HUGGINS, JR.
 SCALE: 1" = 40' (HORIZONTAL)
 1" = 20' (VERTICAL)
 DATE: 1978

K-432

K-432



NO UTM TICKS ON MAP

YAPP
MARSH

CREMA

LLOYD

Wildlife Banding Station

Mt Zion Church

Cem

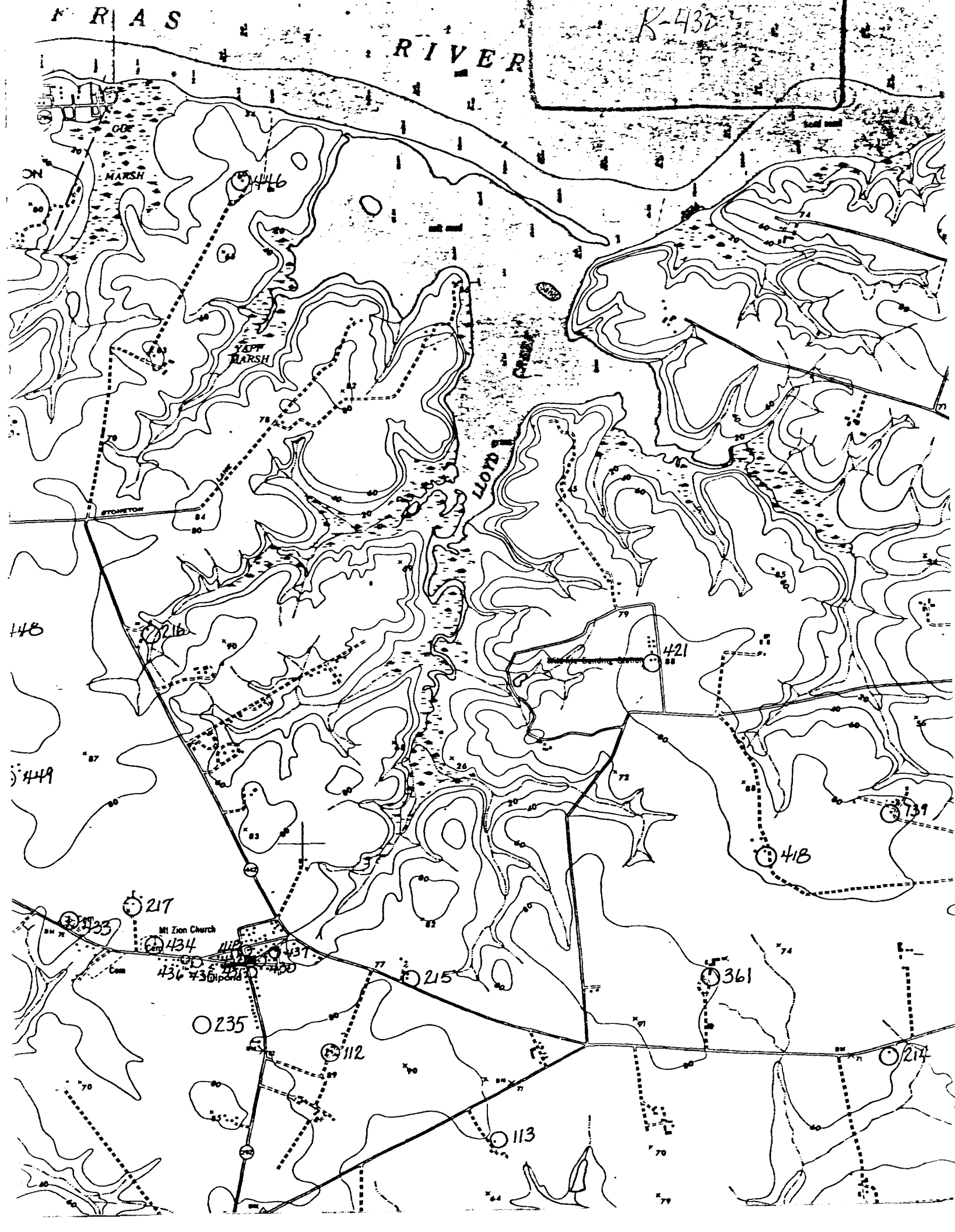
Still Pond

GEO. HARPER
STONE - STILL POND, MD.

R A S

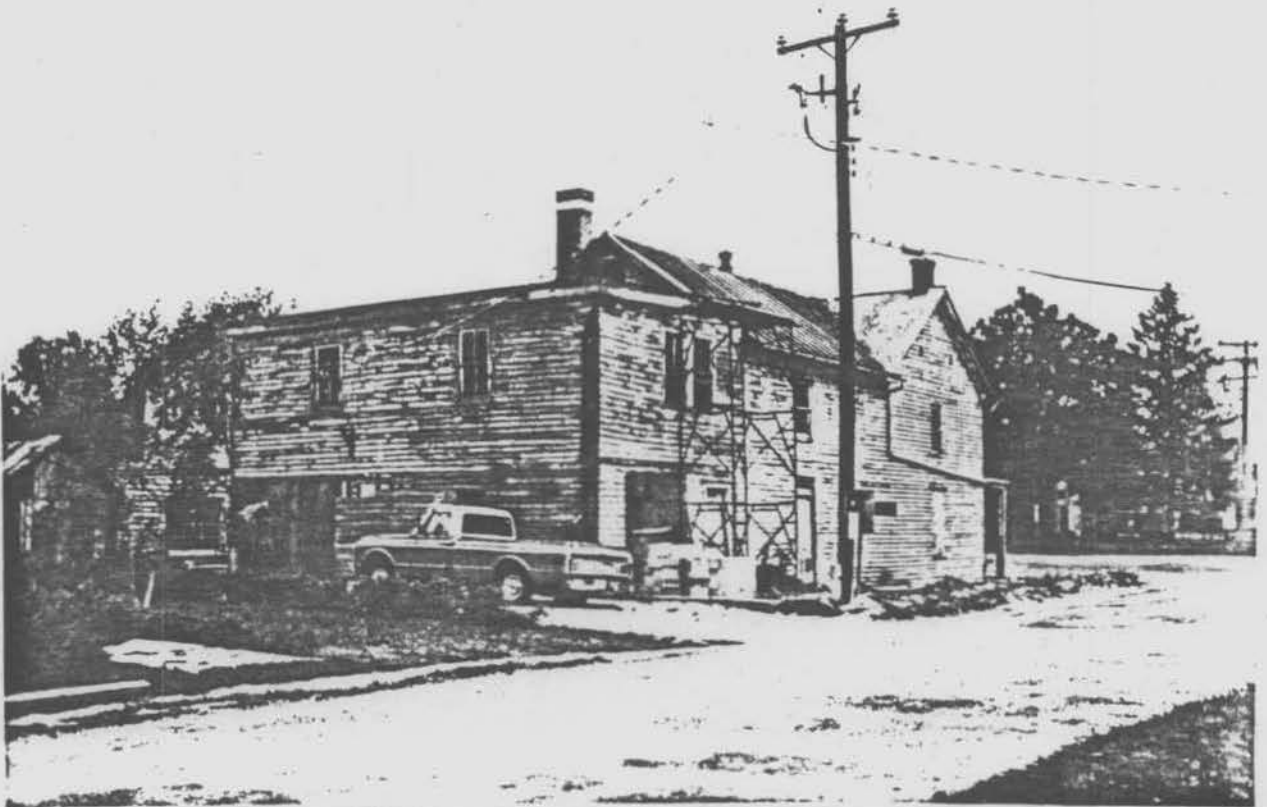
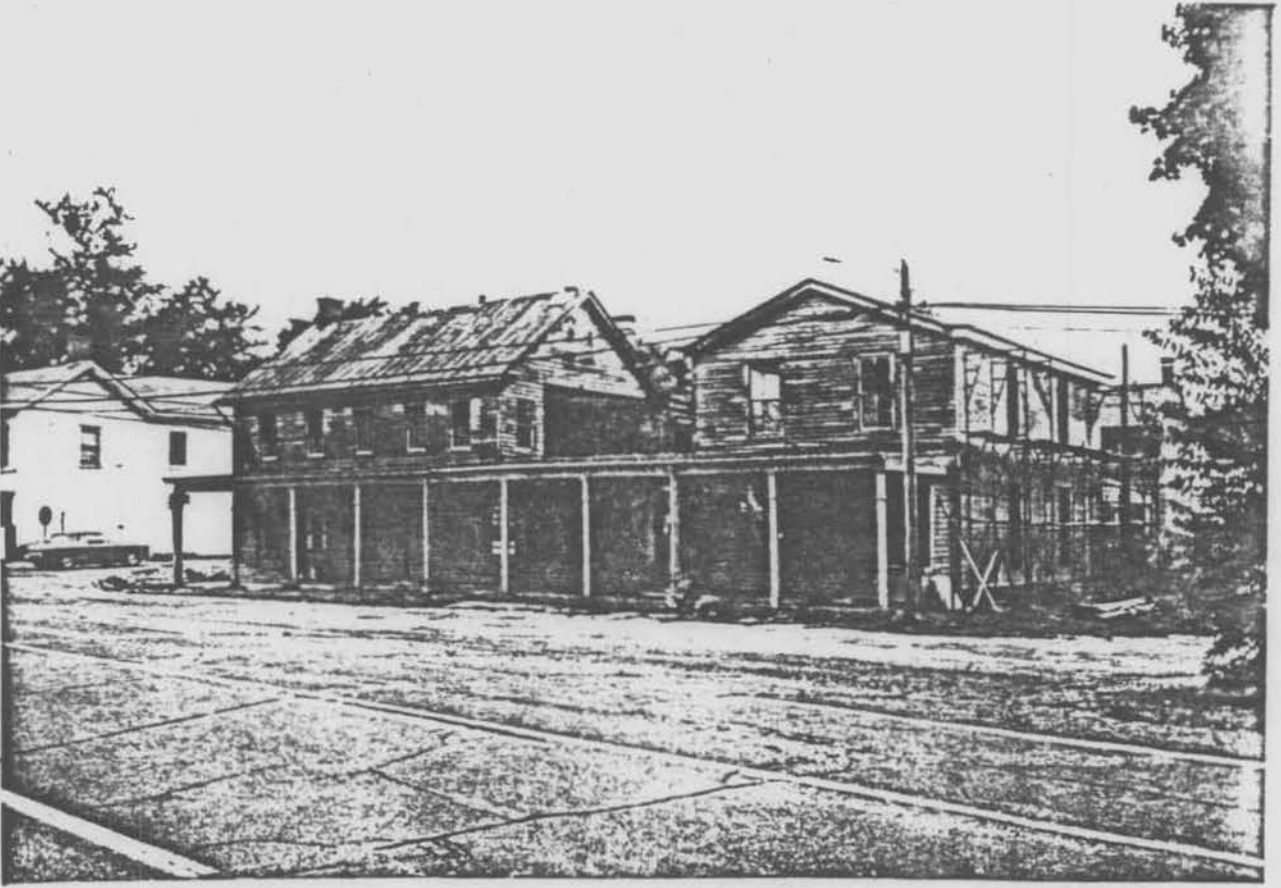
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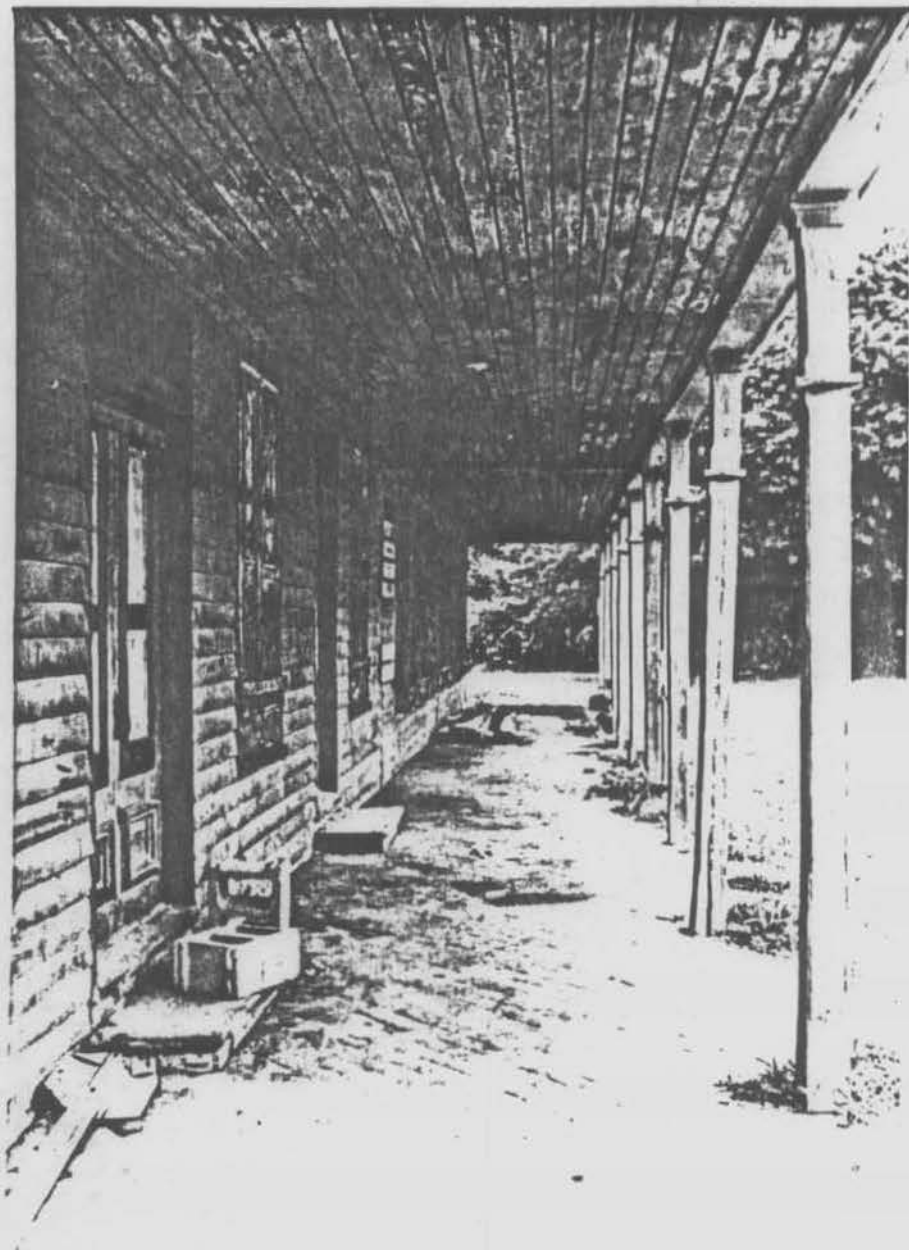
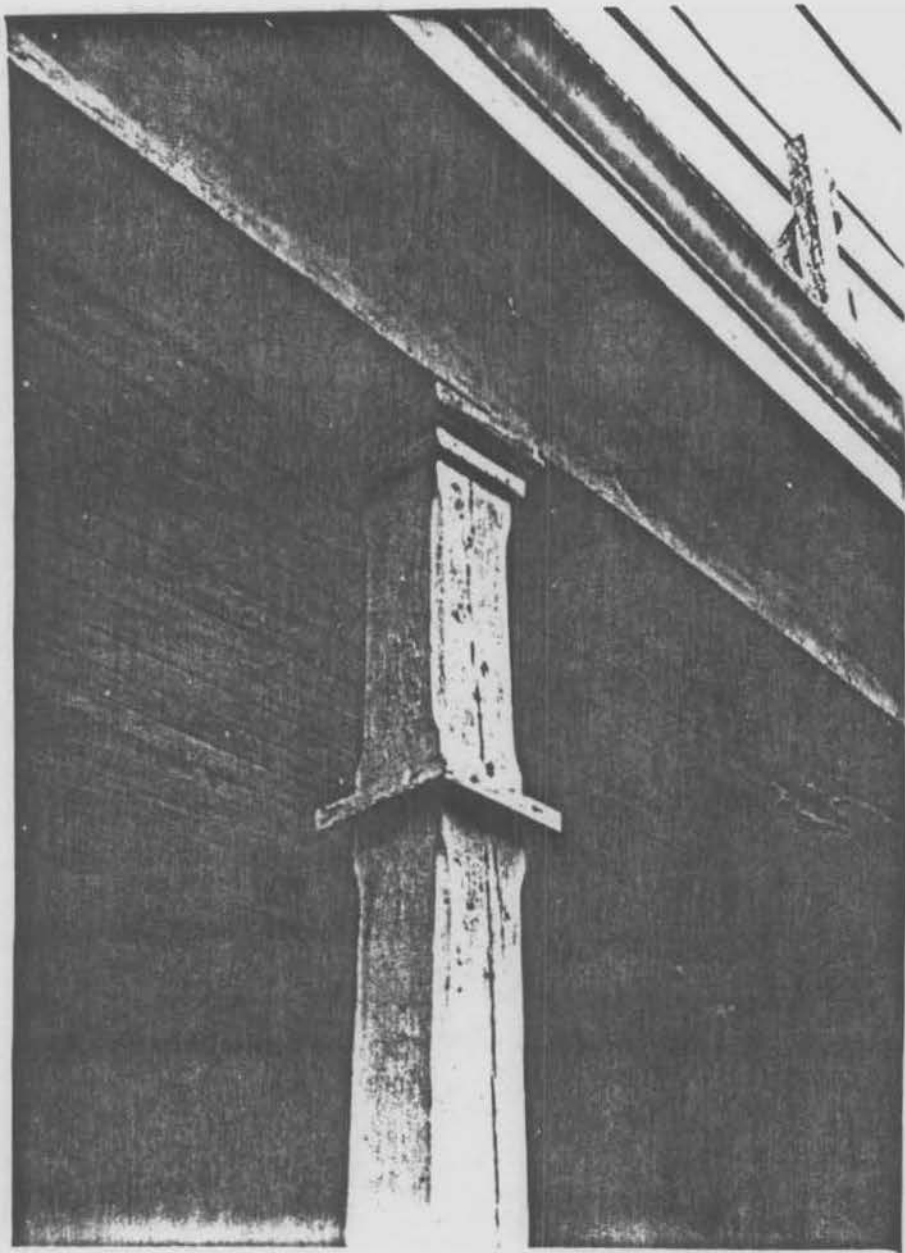
RIVER



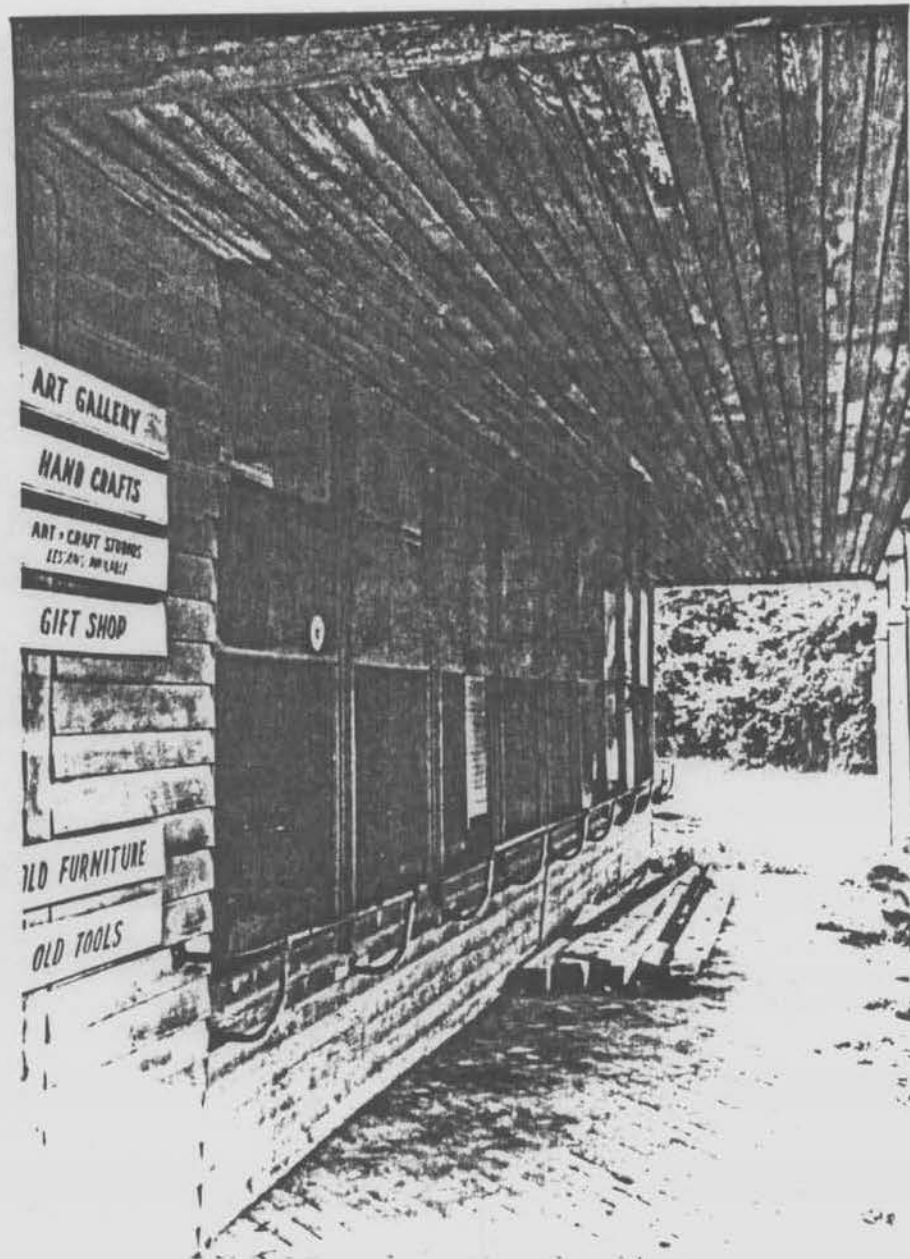
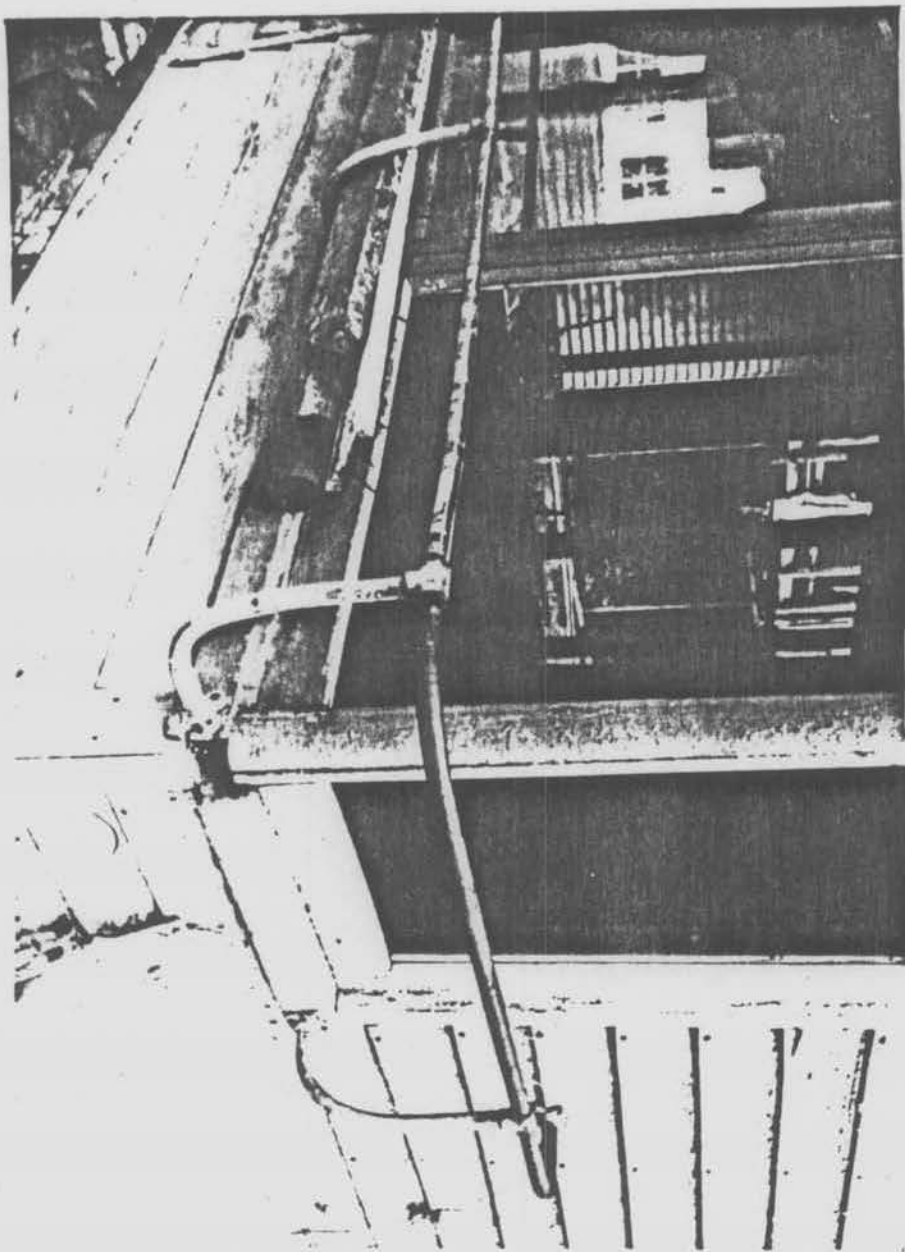
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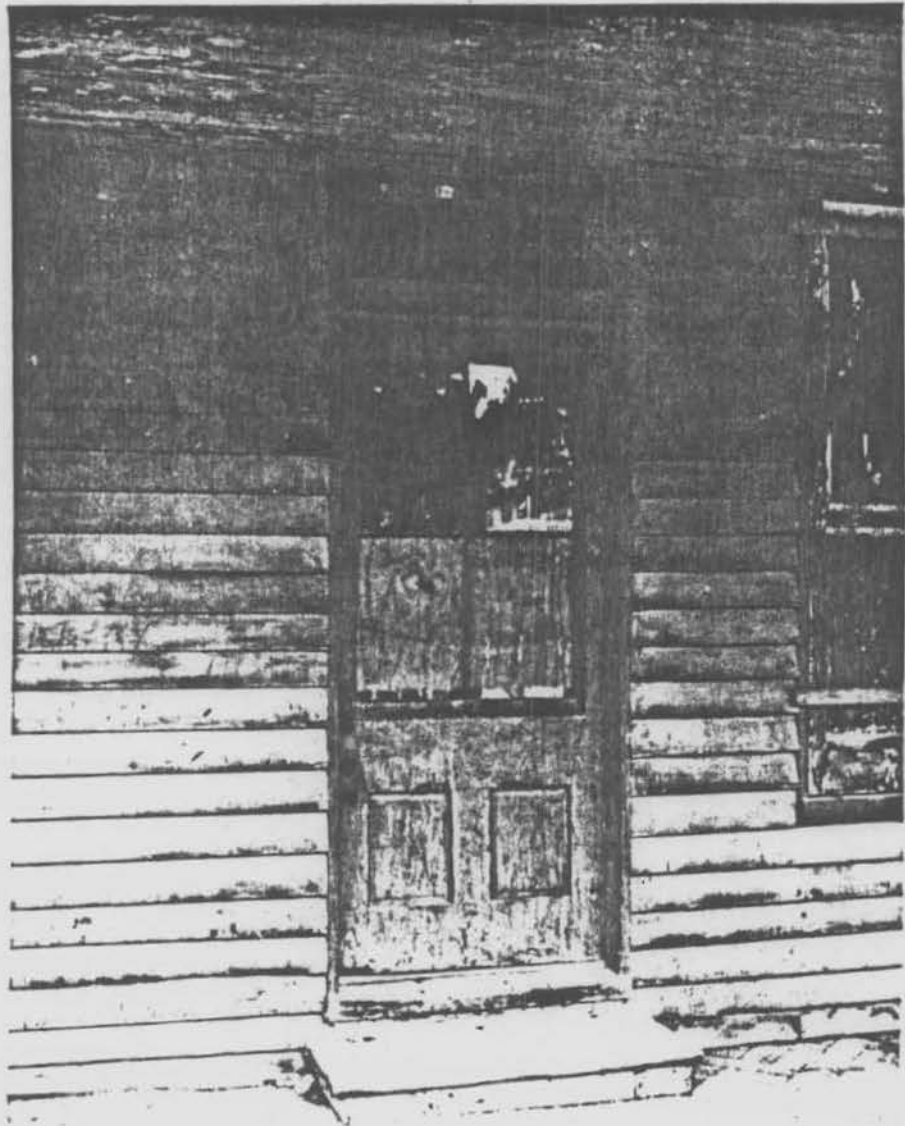




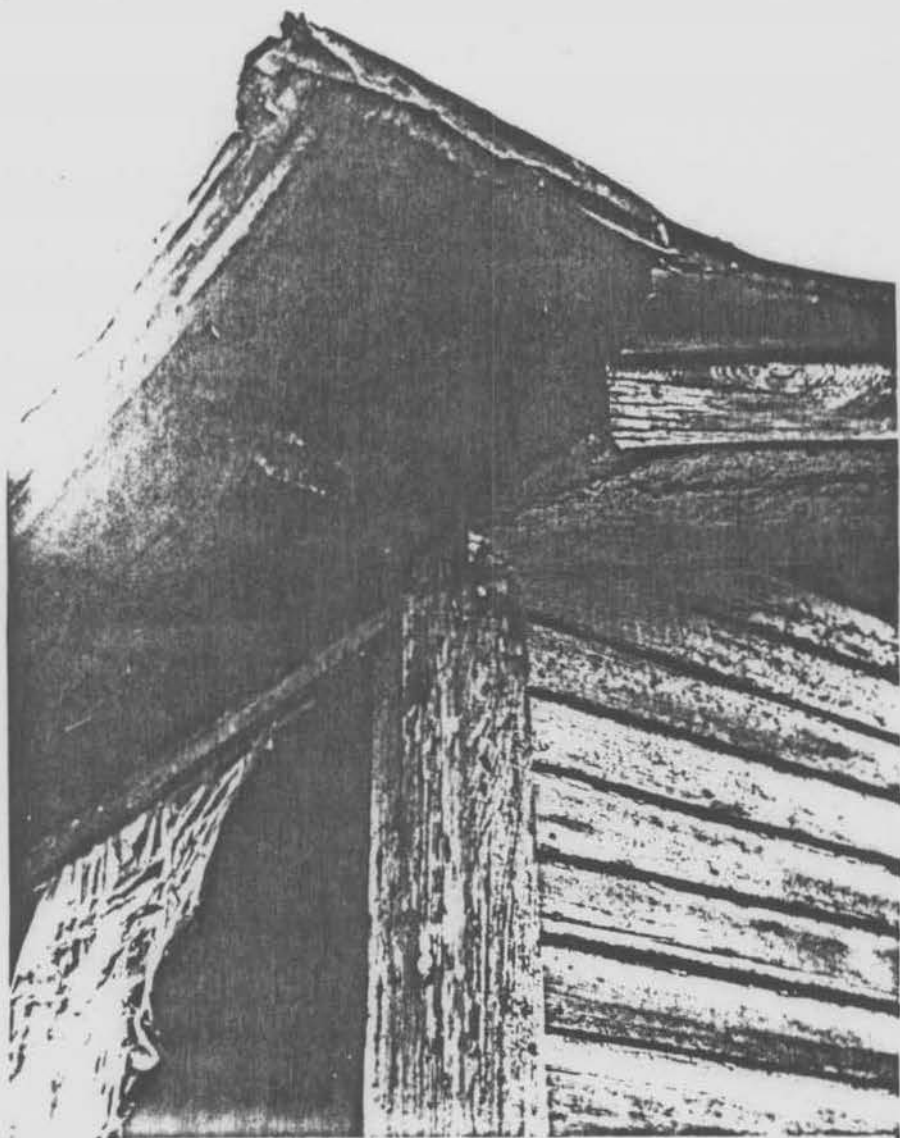
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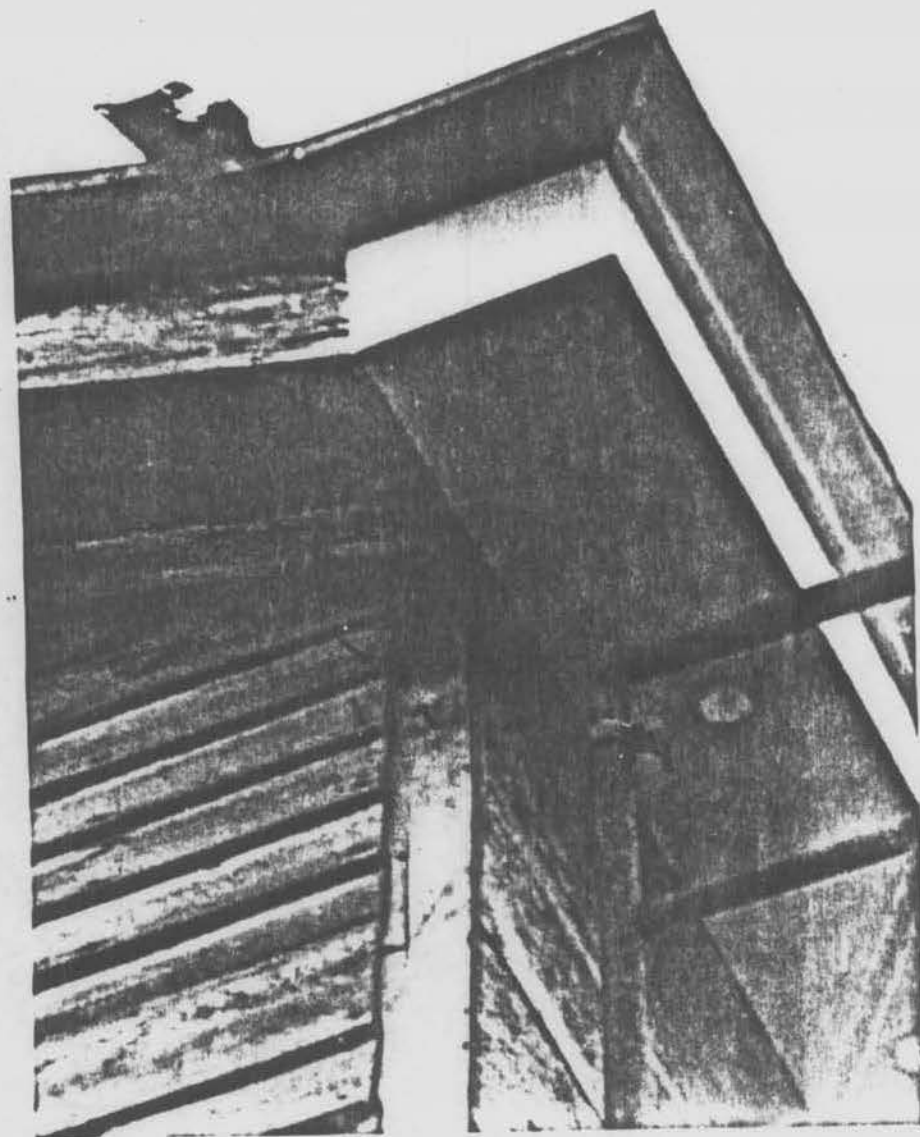
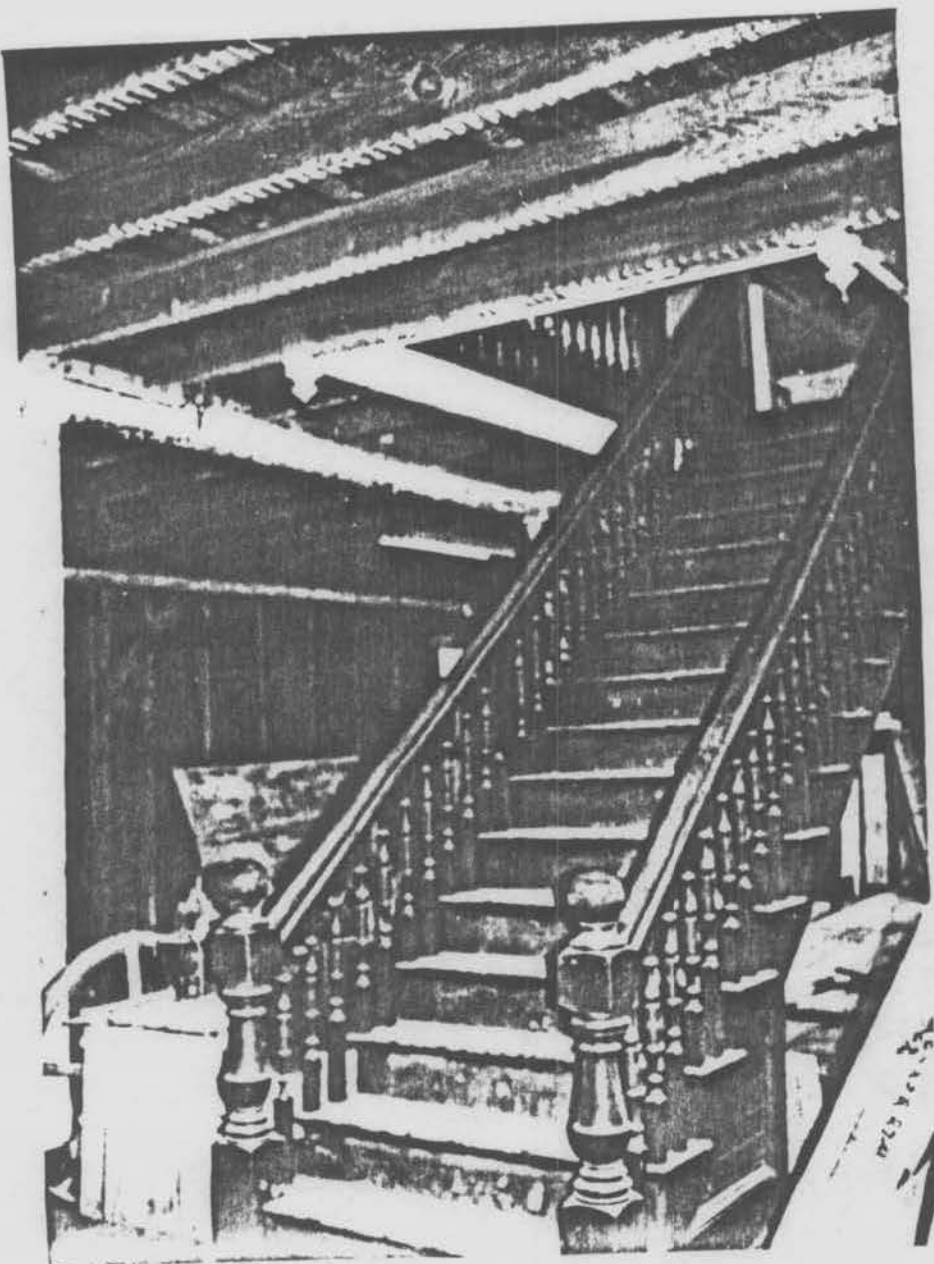
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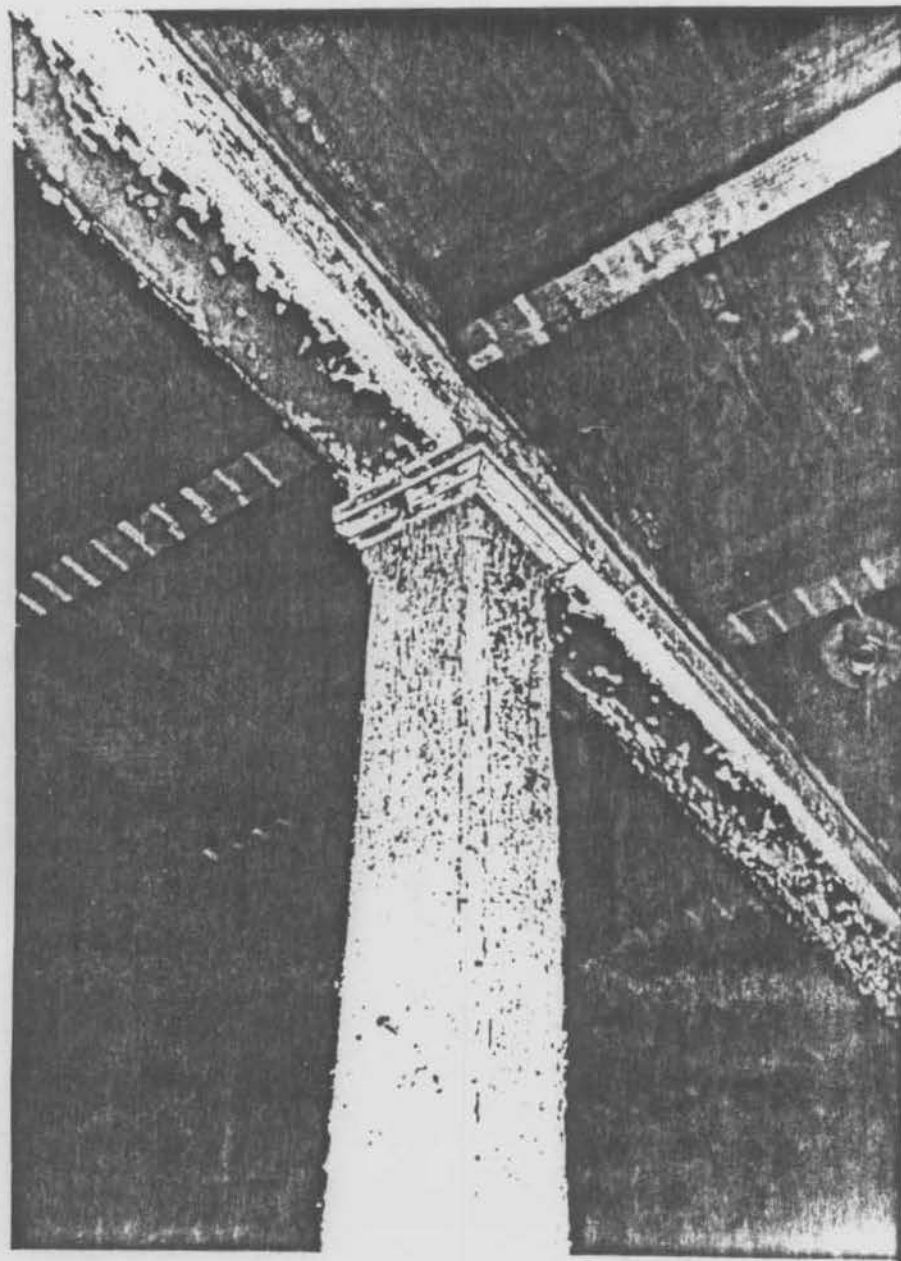
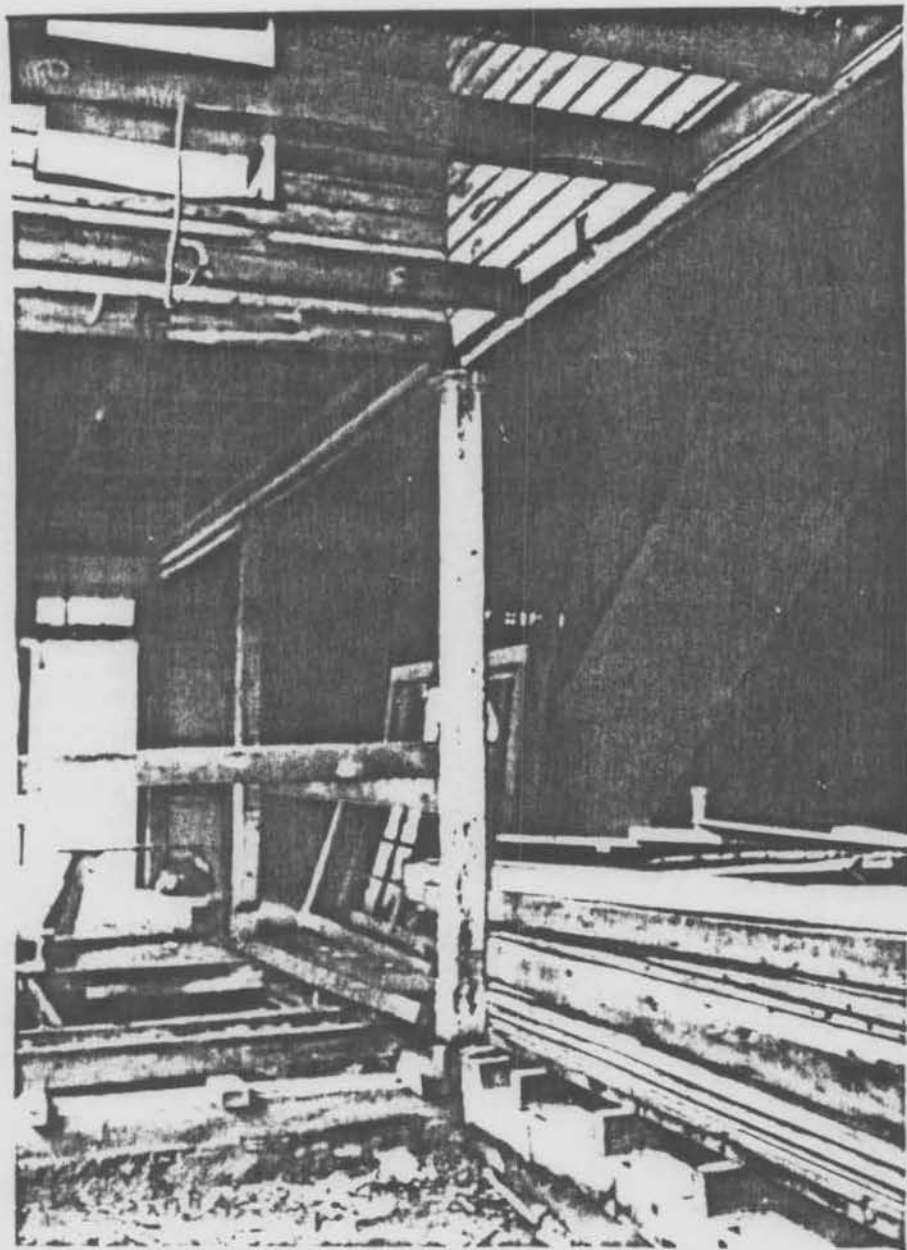
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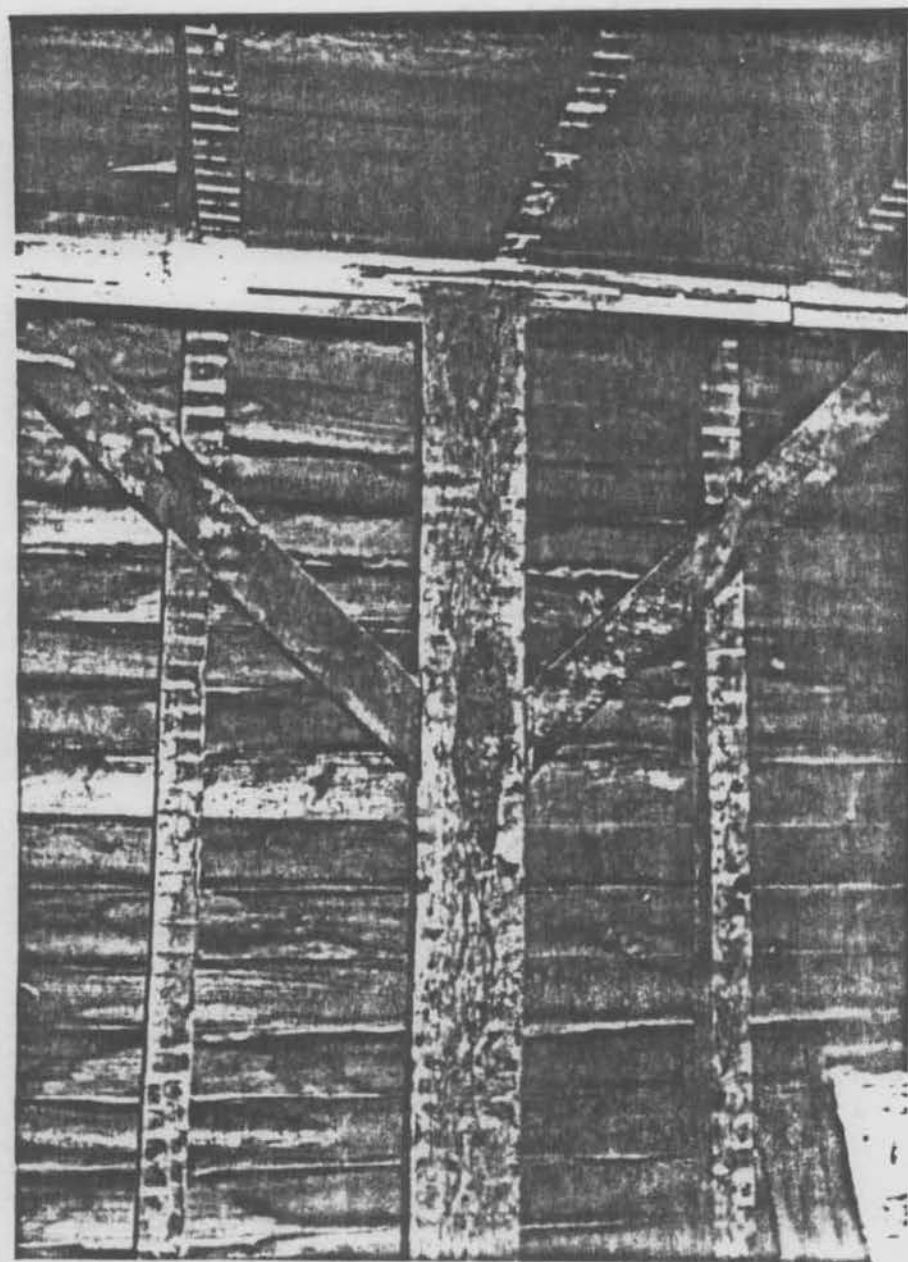
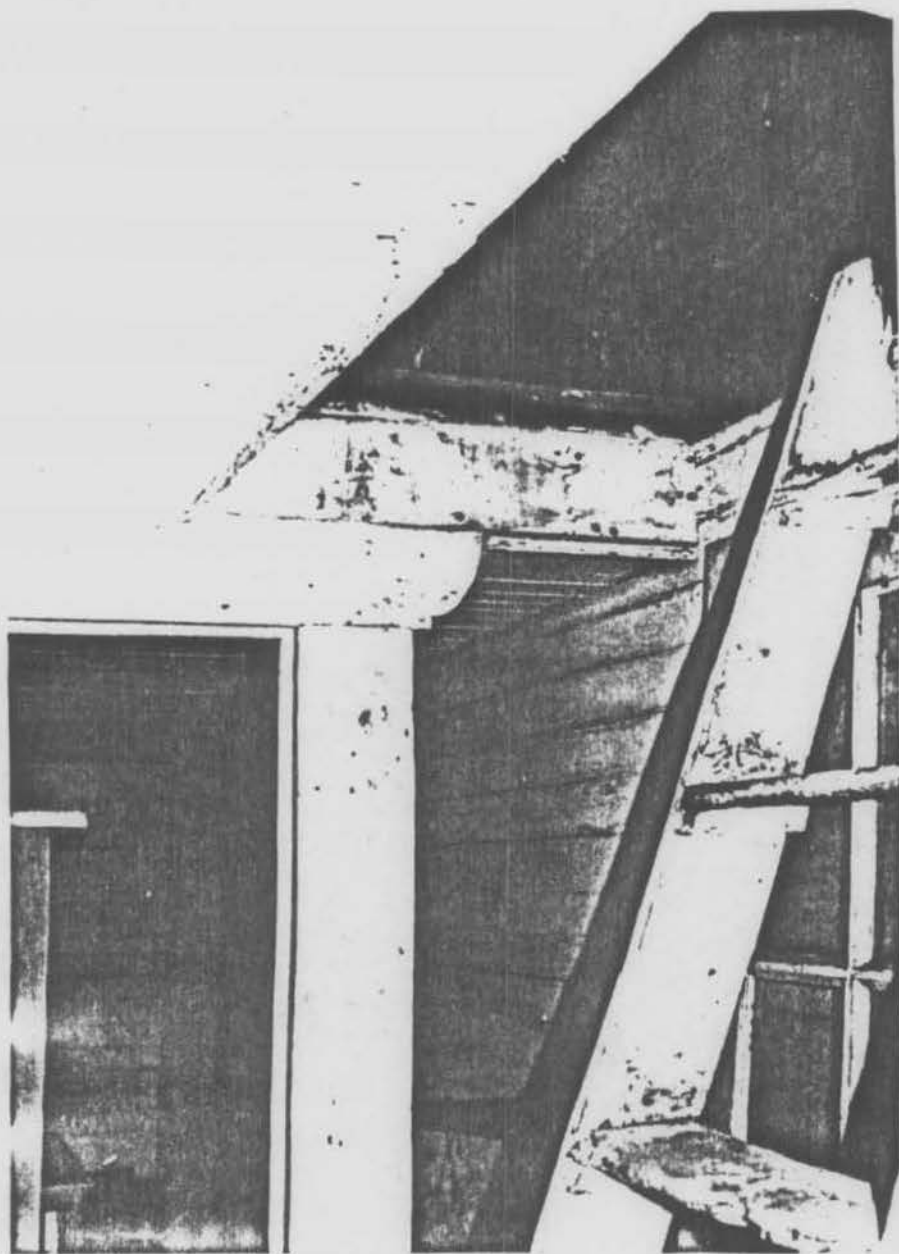
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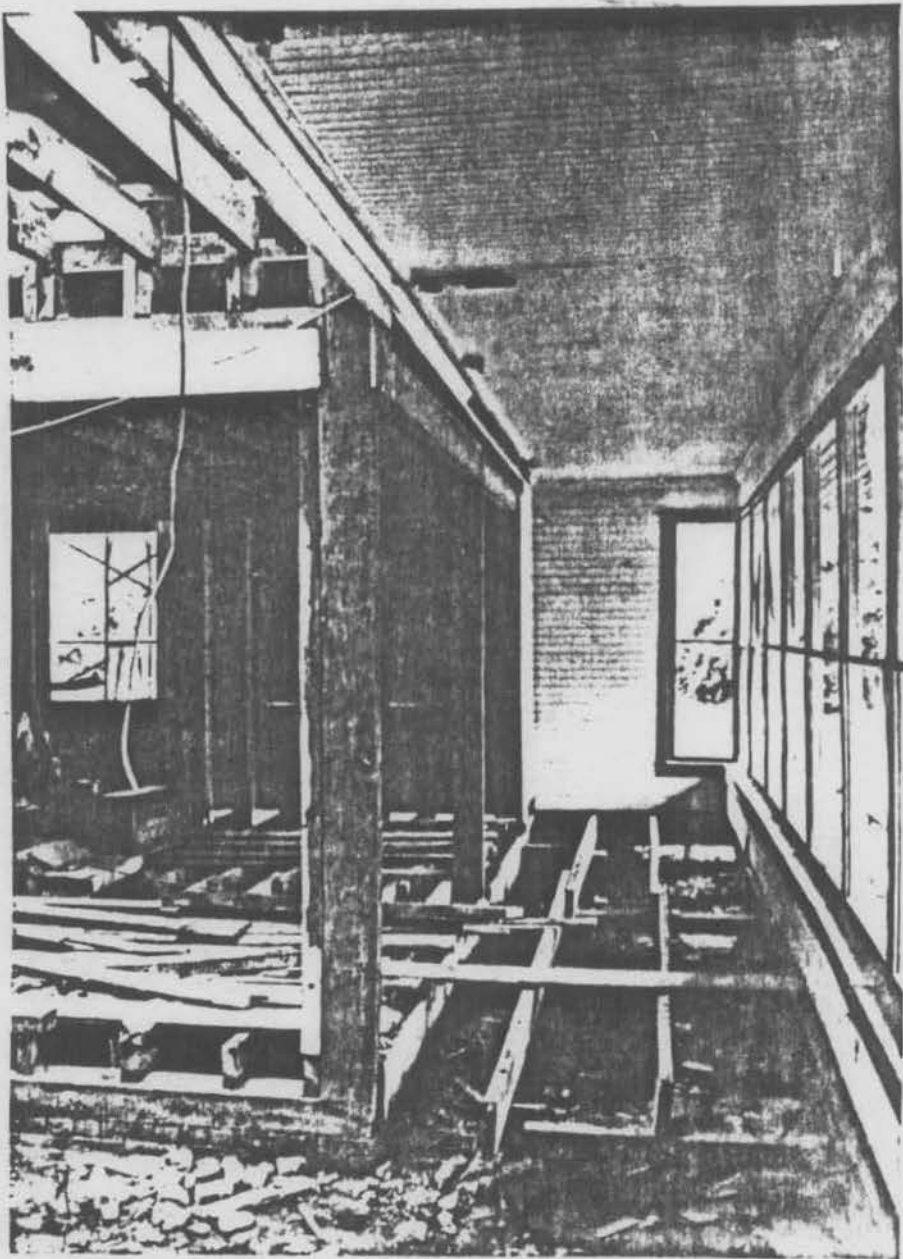
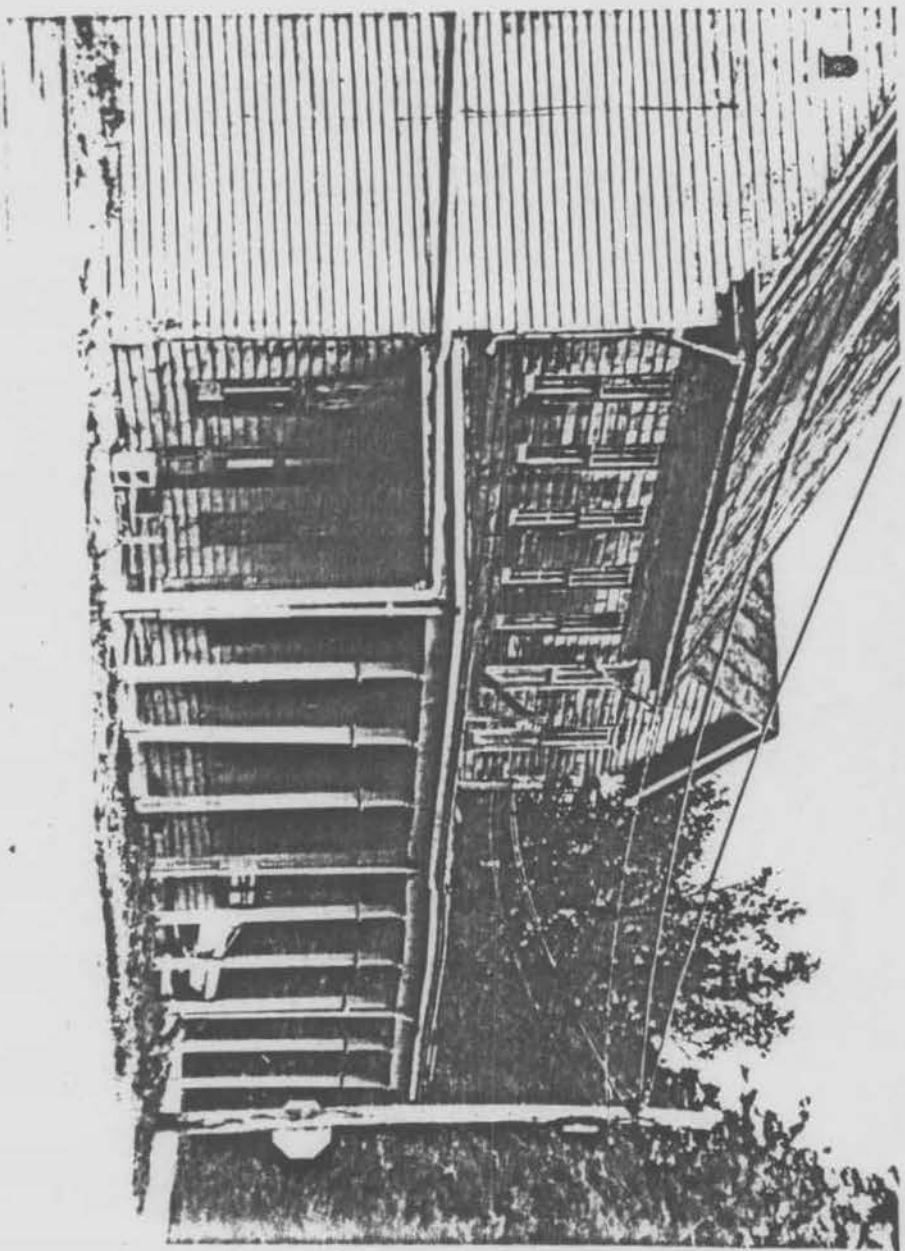
K-432



K-432



K-432



K-432

K-432



K-432



George Harper Store
Kent County, Maryland
ph: unknown
Circa 1915
neg: M. H. Morton, Jr.
People at Christmas, W wing. Camera facing NE.
23/23

23 of 23
Geo. Harper store, Still Pond, Md.
Photographer unknown. Negative: M. H. Morton, Jr.
AIA. Circa 1915. People at Christmas, west
wing. Camera facing n.e.



K-432
old Mebbers store
view to Northeast
still Pond
Kent County
M.L. Fritz
7/1980

MAY 21 1980
FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHY
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND
J. Tyler Campbell